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AGENDA

No faith in people

At 2 a.m. on Tuesday, US envoy Dennis Ross arrived at the Washington Hilton for further talks with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky and to bring the Israeli side up to date on the results of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's meeting with Yasser Arafat.

Thirty hours earlier, Ross had traveled in the opposite direction, from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's suite in the same hotel directly to the airport, to participate in a similar meeting with the Palestinian Authority chairman in London.

Another round of marathon talks had ended without any results. The tripartite summit under US President Bill Clinton's auspices at the White House, which had been within reach just two weeks ago, was now even further away.

The last round of talks had become entangled because of efforts to reach an understanding on the third redeployment. As we get closer to the crux of the problems, new issues arise which require solutions.

See AGENDA, Page 6

PA denies building parliament in Abu Dis

By ELLI WOHLGELER and news agencies

Palestinian legislators yesterday denied reports that a new structure being built in Abu Dis, just outside Jerusalem, is intended to house the Palestinian Legislative Council.

"The building is not for the legislative council," said legislator Ziad Abu Zayyad. "It will house Palestinian Authority departments and offices only."

Channel 2 reported last night that PA Chairman Yasser Arafat will eventually reside at the legislative building, situated just beyond the Jerusalem boundary.

Mohammed Samir, who is in charge of construction at the site, told Channel 2 that building is "at an advanced stage" and that it "is intended to house the legislative council of the Palestinian state."

Abu Dis is under PA civilian control. The potential location of the PA's parliament building is less than a kilometer from the Temple Mount, and within eyesight of al-Aksa Mosque, is viewed as a "very significant victory for Palestinians in the battle over Jerusalem," according to a Palestinian source.

The source said construction has been underway for about six months, but that it was not originally intended to be the parliament building.

"A committee of the PLC decided to establish the headquarters in Al-Bireh, but after it was accused of abandoning Jerusalem, they decided to move the headquarters to Abu Dis."

The source said the purpose is to "try to come as close as they can to Jerusalem, because the closer you come, the more you assume authority over Jerusalem - it's only five minutes away from downtown."



Committee considers lifting Deri's immunity

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon (center) addresses the Knesset House Committee yesterday at the opening of discussions on lifting the immunity of Shas leader Aryeh Deri (left) so he can face charges of breach of trust. Likud whip Meir Sheerit (right) is acting as chairman of the committee for the discussions, in place of Shas MK Raphael Pinhasi. Story, Page 2.

Court presses state on GSS 'torture'

By DAN ZENBERG

The State Attorney's Office was hard-pressed yesterday to defend the state's demand for guaranteed immunity for General Security Service interrogators who use illegal or borderline methods to extract information from detainees.

One after another, the nine justices who began hearing six petitions involving the alleged torture of detainees, including two petitions calling on the High Court to ban the methods altogether, indicated that the state should ask the Knesset to pass an explicit law instead of forcing

ing the court to decide on the matter.

"Why does the High Court have to pull the Knesset's chestnuts out of the fire?" Supreme Court President Aharon Barak asked Shai Nitzan, of the State Attorney's Office, summing up the queries of the most of the bench.

This is the first time the High Court has agreed to deal in principle with the question of the GSS interrogation techniques, which the organization's critics describe as torture. Yesterday's hearing lasted five hours.

One of the two petitions-in-principle, submitted by the

Public Committee Against Torture in Israel, has called for a ban on the use of a technique in which detainees are bound hand and foot, a hood is placed on their heads, they are forced to listen to loud music and deprived of sleep. In many cases, they are also forced to sit on a small chair.

The other petition, submitted by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, called for a ban on violent shaking.

Nitzan argued that the constraints of the first technique are part of the prerogatives of arrest and interrogation granted by law to law enforcement agents - police

and GSS - unless they are imposed for an unreasonably long time.

He acknowledged that violent shaking is a criminal act but said the court must differentiate between the missions of police interrogators and GSS interrogators.

While the police are trying to solve crimes that have already been committed and bring the perpetrators to trial, the GSS is trying to prevent crimes from being committed, he said.

His argument is called the "necessity defense."

See TORTURE, Page 2

PM tells cabinet: 3rd pullback still poses a problem

By JAY BUSHINSKY and news agencies

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu indicated yesterday that the scope and timing of the IDF's third redeployment in the West Bank were his primary concern and the actual sticking point in his recent rounds of negotiations with US officials.

Meanwhile, there was no confirmation by the State Department or White House that US President Bill Clinton would be meeting with his advisers today to decide the administration's next steps and say who is to blame for impasse.

On Tuesday, State Department spokesman James Rubin said no more meetings between Israeli and US officials have been scheduled for the near future.

He said the administration would decide on its next steps once US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has briefed Clinton on the negotiations.

"If we conclude that we simply cannot reach an agreement, then we will need to come out and say so and explain why. And that day is not far off," Rubin said.

Reporting to the cabinet on his US trip, Netanyahu implied that the third pullback stipulated in the Oslo Accords was as much of a contentious issue as the long-pending second one.

After the cabinet meeting, he said his preferred approach is "to arrive at an understanding which also encompasses the third redeployment and not only the first and second redeployment." (Palestinian Authority leaders rejected the cabinet's initial terms for the first pullback, as a result of which it has not been implemented.)

National Infrastructure Minister

Ariel Sharon reportedly registered his dissatisfaction with Netanyahu's negotiating strategy last week by refusing to join him in talks with Albright or to meet him in Washington.

At a one-on-one session with Netanyahu yesterday, Sharon contended that serious deliberations about what he termed "this most important matter" are essential at the cabinet level, a source close to Sharon said.

The source described Netanyahu's presentation to the cabinet as "a monologue," suggesting there was no exchange of views.

Netanyahu told the cabinet that "Israel enjoys broad support in the organized American Jewish community and the US Congress," a cabinet spokesman said.

He said nothing was concluded during the talks with Albright and no consent was given for a 13 percent redeployment - reports of which are baseless, according to the spokesman.

The purpose of his trip, the spokesman said, "was not for a confrontation with the administration. Even if differences exist, relations between the two countries are sufficiently strong to overcome them."

Netanyahu contended that he took "a clear stand on all steps relating to the fulfillment of Palestinian obligations."

He stressed his opposition to such "unilateral measures" as the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, a move which he described as constituting a flagrant violation of the Oslo Accords and the Hebron Agreement. It would "release Israel from its commitments," he said.

See CABINET, Page 2

Anti-missionary bill passes first Knesset hurdle

Calls for 3-year prison term or fine

By LIAT COLLINS

A bill which calls for serious sanctions against missionary activity in Israel passed preliminary reading in the Knesset yesterday.

It calls for a three-year prison sentence or NIS 50,000 fine for anyone found guilty of "preaching with the intent of causing another person to change his religion," even if no printed material is distributed. It relates equally to all religions.

The bill, introduced by MK Raphael Pinhasi (Shas), was supported by 37 coalition MKs - including Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and his ministers - and was opposed by 28 opposition MKs. There were three abstentions, all by Labor MKs. MKs Naomi Blumenthal (Likud) and Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) were present but did not vote.

Coalition whip Meir Sheerit opposed bringing the bill to the vote. When the bill was first raised two months ago, it coincided with the bill by Tsomet whip Eliezer Zandberg to draft yeshiva students.

At the time, Sheerit threatened Pinhasi that if he tried to bring it to a vote, he would oppose it and support Zandberg's bill and so Pinhasi pulled back.

Yesterday it was brought to the vote without speeches or a discussion. Sheerit again tried to torpedo it and even handed out a paper to coalition MKs saying it should be

opposed, but after a discussion with Pinhasi he backedtracked and even mobilized a majority for it in the coalition.

"This bill will be buried in committee like similar bills before it," Sheerit said later. "I made this clear to Pinhasi. He knows it and that is why I let it pass. There is no way this will become a law."

The bill is broader than the bill by MKs Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) and Nissim Zvilli (Labor) which passed preliminary reading and relates to the distribution of written missionary material. Zvilli later withdrew his name from that bill.

The explanation to Pinhasi's bill reads: "In recent years missionary activity has increased to worrying proportions. This is particularly evident among youth and new immigrants."

"Whereas in the not so distant past, the very thought of everyting related to missionizing was shocking and disturbing to all Jews, unfortunately there is now indifference to this serious phenomenon of an intensive destructive campaign among Jews."

"Therefore, a broad bill should be legislated which includes all activities involving proselytization or the ability to influence any person to change his religion and in this way. People can preserve their traditions for future years according to the tradition of 'every person shall live according to his beliefs.'"



Rugby in Jerusalem

New Zealand's Eric Rush is tackled by Israel's Fijian reinforcement Ifikeli Waqavatu during their match in the inaugural Jerusalem Rugby Sevens at Teddy Stadium yesterday. New Zealand won 38-0. Story, Page 20.

(Brian Hendler)

Bar-Illan: 'New Yorker' broke promise

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The New Yorker failed to keep a promise made to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by the article's author, David Remnick, according to which he would submit quotations for scrutiny before they appeared in print, David Bar-Illan, Netanyahu's communications adviser, said yesterday.

He put The New Yorker's lifting of unattributed passages from The Jerusalem Post in the same category as what he termed the "fabrication" of his purported references to Sara Netanyahu.

In an interview with Channel 2 last night, Remnick said that The New Yorker left a telephone message with Bar-Illan's assistant Michael Stoltz on Friday, but Stoltz never returned the call to review the quotes.

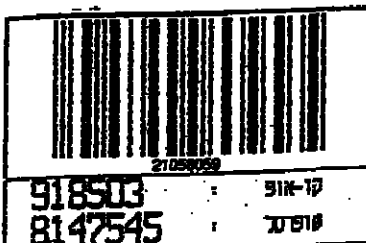
"The New Yorker called Stoltz after the magazine was on the street," Bar-Illan contended.

Channel 2 played a tape in which Remnick accepted Netanyahu's demand that his quotes be sent for his final consent or approval.

Bar-Illan was indignant about The New Yorker's quoting him, in its May 25 edition, as saying Sara Netanyahu is "not the most stable woman in the world."

Bar-Illan said his meeting with Remnick "was supposed to be a chat, not an interview." He contended that several of the things he said "were twisted out of their intended meaning."

Remnick, a former Washington Post foreign correspondent, is the author of Lenin's Tomb, a highly regarded book about Russia's transition from communism to capitalism, and a Pulitzer Prize laureate.



Knesset begins discussion on lifting Aryeh Deri's immunity

By LIAT COLLINS

The discussions on whether the parliamentary immunity of Shas leader Aryeh Deri can be lifted so he can face charges of breach of trust began in front of a packed room in the Knesset House Committee yesterday. But the pre-court drama was halted for the start of the plenary session and will be continued next week.

Deri said he would not object to his immunity being lifted.

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, under attack from both opposition and coalition MKs, warned against delaying the discussions unnecessarily.

After a short debate, the com-

mittee meeting was opened to the media by acting chairman, Likud whip Meir Sheerit, after Deri said he had no objections to this.

The regular chairman, MK Raphael Pinhasi, stepped down from the position for the discussion because Deri is his party leader.

Rubinstein explained the main charges are: "An apparent breach of trust by exploiting the position of interior minister and interior ministry director-general for political and other purposes not in the state's interests by transferring funds from the ministry to non-profit associations he favors via local authorities."

He noted that Deri had turned

down a "hearing" with the attorney-general because another personal case against him is still being heard in court.

Rubinstein asked the committee to discuss the issue in a pertinent and relevant manner and alluded to yesterday's comments by MK Zvi Hendel (National Religious Party) that Rubinstein is bending over backwards to show he is fair because "the kippa on his head is like the hump of a hunchback."

Several MKs, including Michael Kleiner (Geshet) and Deputy Health Minister Shlomo Benizri (Shas), suggested postponing the decision until after the conclusion of Deri's current trial. They said

that once the matter had been raised in the committee, the statute of limitations is frozen, although Rubinstein said that it is not necessarily the case.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon said in the previous Knesset cases similar to Deri's were heard by the Knesset State Control Committee concerning other public figures who were not brought to trial.

MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) was even more blunt, noting a previous State Comptroller's report blasting former Meretz leader Shlomit Aloni's performance as education minister.

"Why when other MKs, ministers and civil servants whom the

State Comptroller asked be prosecuted in the same years were not brought to trial... why is Deri being brought to trial for lesser things?" Gafni asked.

Deri stated categorically that he would "at no stage" object to having his immunity be lifted.

Only MK Shevah Weiss (Labor) and MK Haim Cron (Meretz) are fully in favor of lifting Deri's immunity.

MK Uzi Baram (Labor) described Rubinstein's reasoning as "soft and ambivalent" and not sufficient to lift an MK's immunity. Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi suggested that the question of lifting of immunity be taken out of the Knesset's hands.

Albright, Shara to meet tomorrow

Nasrallah hints he won't oppose Lebanese army deployment in south

By DAVID RUDGE

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara is scheduled to meet with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in Washington tomorrow. Shara, who is visiting Colombia and will stop in the US on his way back to Syria, requested the meeting, Israel Radio reported.

Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah has given a broad hint that the organization would not oppose the deployment of the Lebanese army in south Lebanon in the event of an IDF withdrawal.

Nasrallah, in an interview with *al-Hayat*, an Arabic newspaper printed in London, also came out in support of strengthening UNIFIL to assist the Lebanese army and facilitate an IDF pullout from the security zone.

"It is normal for the Lebanese army to take any security measures it wants in any parts of Lebanon, but this should not be part of a commitment to Israel," he said.

Syria, and by proxy Lebanon, have categorically rejected Israel's proposal to withdraw from the

security zone under the auspices of UN security council resolution 425.

Israel has made the proposal conditional on arrangements that would guarantee the security of the northern border and the safety of South Lebanon Army soldiers and their families.

The reports said that Albright would discuss the initiative with Shara, as well as other issues.

Nasrallah, in an interview published in two parts, was not prepared to say whether Hizbullah would cease its activities against Israel in the event of an IDF withdrawal from south Lebanon.

He said that if Israel really wanted to leave Lebanon "for Lebanon to say that its army would take over the vacated areas should be enough."

In a separate development, Israel lodged a complaint yesterday with the Grapes of Wrath monitoring group over the death of a Lebanese civilian in a Hizbullah roadside bomb attack near the Huneh crossing point on the northern perimeter of the security zone on Tuesday.

Gov't moves to halt construction work on Temple Mount

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Moslem officials in Jerusalem have temporarily halted construction work underneath Al-Aksa Mosque at the request of Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, while emergency consultations continue over what the minister charges is a serious violation of the status quo on the Temple Mount.

The high-level meeting was called owing to the sensitive nature of the violation, which authorities maintain is tantamount to building a new addition to the mosque. The meetings involve the Jerusalem police, municipal officials, the municipality's legal adviser, State Attorney Edna Arbel and General Security Service officials.

Wakf officials denied that any illegal construction is taking place under the Temple Mount, saying the work is part of routine repairs being done at the site.

They charged that Israel fabricated the entire accusation in an attempt to smear their reputation.

Senior Moslem officials said that land under their jurisdiction has never, and will never be owned by Israel, and that while they were complying temporarily, they would resume the work soon and that Israel had no right to intervene.

The meeting of top officials follows reports by Jerusalem District Police Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki that all efforts to have the Wakf stop construction were ignored.

Kahalani said security officials



The government says the Wakf is violating the status quo on the Temple Mount by building an addition to Al-Aksa Mosque. (AP)

have been meeting with Wakf officials seeking to find a peaceful solution to the potentially inflammatory situation, which he fears could escalate into violence.

Kahalani said he had given officials permission to clean the vault, but not to start renovations.

"Two days ago, they apparently decided to go to the next stage, which was to take out floor tiles, rugs and bars. The minute they started this I ordered that it be stopped immediately and it was," Kahalani told Army Radio.

He said the situation required a

thorough investigation, because "before starting refurbishment work, we have to check if there are the necessary permits to carry out construction, and if it also requires the involvement of the Antiquity Authority to study the site."

Police officials were worried that

any attempt to stop the construction by use of force could have incited worldwide Islamic rioting.

The matter was then brought to the attention of Arbel's office, which decided that nothing could be done without the direct intervention of the prime minister.

Labor tells Walker: We'll support pullback

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN and LIAT COLLINS

Labor will support Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu if he brings the second redeployment to a Knesset vote, MK Raanan Cohen, the party's secretary-general told US Ambassador Edward Walker yesterday.

"There is an overwhelming Knesset majority for the second pullback and for going ahead with the peace process, and Netanyahu's declarations about not having a majority for the pullback are not true," said Cohen, who met with Walker in the Knesset.

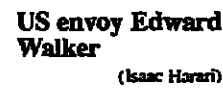
Walker told reporters that he does not view last week's talks in Washington between Netanyahu

and Secretary of State Madeleine as a failure. "No, I'm not prepared to say that at all," he said. "We're continuing to have contacts with the parties, the Secretary just met with Arafat."

There are continuing contacts with the prime minister as he works with his government, so we will have to see where it leads.

Regarding reports that Netanyahu is seeking \$1 billion in US aid for the redeployment, Walker said he did not think any specific figures had been discussed.

Cohen warned that stopping the peace process might drag the entire Middle East to a military confrontation and with it an outbreak of terrorism and violence will "turn the wheel back 50 years."



US envoy Edward Walker (Isaac Harari)

Hussein blasts Netanyahu over peace stance

AMMAN (Reuters) - Jordan's King Hussein sharply criticized Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday for flouting US proposals to cede enough land to the Palestinians, likening it to a "threat to burn the White House" in Washington.

King Hussein, who was speaking to representatives of the judicial, legislative and executive powers at the royal palace, ridiculed Netanyahu's unreadiness to accept US proposals to end a 14-month deadlock in the peace process.

"The Israeli prime minister now threatens to put Washington on fire and this is despite the fact that Washington and the United States

have given all they have in material and weapons support [to Israel]," he said.

"I think the last time the White House was burned was during the Revolution against British colonial rule and the British forces at the time burned the White House," he said.

King Hussein put the onus of responsibility for the stalemate in the peace process on Israel's current government, saying it was not respecting a string of accords signed since 1993 on expanding the land under the Palestinian Authority's control.

King Hussein also derided Netanyahu's warning to the

European Union on Tuesday that it would deny itself a role in peace-making if it imposed a boycott on imports from the settlements.

"The peace process will continue and will attain God willing, its objectives of a just, honorable and lasting peace," he said, adding that he believes that a majority of Arabs and Israelis shared a common yearning for a lasting peace.

King Hussein said Netanyahu's anti-peace policy was bolstering the Arab image in world public opinion and undoing a former perception of warmongering against Israel.

"I think the image has changed now... we used to let loose talk which was not based on reality

and provoked the world against us, now it's the opposite," he said.

He contrasted PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's pro-peace stance with Netanyahu's intransigence, praising Arafat's tolerance and saying he would do his utmost to stand by him.

Urging Palestinians to stand by Arafat, he also warned that inter-Palestinian fighting would have serious impact on stability in Jordan.

"Any divisions or schisms, God forbid, is weakness and will bring catastrophes which will hit the Palestinians and hurt us... anything that happen there will have repercussions on us," he added.

PA ready for peace process failure

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMAD NAJIB

The Palestinian Authority said yesterday it is prepared for a breakdown in the peace process and will work to recruit international opposition against Israel.

Nabil Amr, an adviser to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, said he does not expect that the US will admit that its efforts to revive the peace process have failed. He said he does not expect the US to pressure Israel, being prevented from doing so by a pro-Israel Congress.

Instead, he said, the PA will have to act on its own.

"The PA is able to face any failure in the peace process and will work on more than one track and will work with the international community," Amr said.

On Tuesday night, Arafat convened Fatah's central committee and discussed the US efforts to obtain an Israeli withdrawal on the

West Bank. Arafat called for greater international efforts to pressure Israel to carry out its commitments.

Sakher Habash, a member of PLO executive committee, said the US is too weak to pressure Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and instead tried to force the Palestinians into more concessions.

Arafat met yesterday in Gaza with US Consul-General in Jerusalem John Herbst and discussed the latest round of talks. Officials said the focus was on what the Clinton administration would now do to ensure that the interim agreements are implemented.

PA officials said the authority is beginning to renew measures to strengthen what they termed "national unity" in the face of an impending crisis with Israel. Among the measures is the revival of a Palestinian boycott

of Israeli goods. Merchants said that PA inspectors visited Ramallah stores and insisted that Israeli goods be removed from the shelves.

At the same time, Arafat complained that Hamas is not helping Palestinian efforts at unity. In an interview with the London-based newspaper *al-Hayat*, Arafat said: "I'm saying to Hamas that there is no authority over the Palestinian people other than the PA. Nobody can withdraw from the Palestinian people as Hamas tried to do when it failed to participate in the marches and the demonstrations of the 50th anniversary of the Nakba."

Arafat said the PA is trying to maintain a dialogue with all Palestinian groups, but said Hamas remains displeased with the PA investigation that concluded that Hamas bombmaker Muhi Sharif was killed by members of the Islamic movement.

Prof.: Redeployment percentage not main problem

By DAVID RUDGE

The impasse over the size of the proposed second redeployment in the West Bank is not the main stumbling block in the peace process with the Palestinians, according to Haifa University political scientist Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor.

"Redeployment is only a symptom of the basic disease and an indication of how badly things are going. It is not the main problem," Ben-Dor said. "The real issue is what to do next - the comprehensive and permanent agreement and how to attain it. The disagreement over 11 percent or 13 percent is just a minor one."

"The problem is that the parties are being obstinate over this point

because they feel that there is not going to be a final stage and that whatever they get, in the case of the Palestinians, or whatever is given, in the case of Israel, is going to be the settlement for a long time to come."

"This is why both sides are being as obstinate as they are over what to the rest of the world seems to be a somewhat insignificant matter and certainly not one over which you would blow up the peace process."

Ben-Dor is participating in a two-day international conference, that opened yesterday at Haifa University, on "The Camp David Accords and Their Impact on the Peace Process." It marks the 20th anniversary of the 1979 agree-

ments that led to the Egypt-Israel peace treaty.

According to Ben-Dor, the Oslo process is "full of paradoxes and the very reasons which accounted for its initial success also account for its failure in the present stage."

"Everything that was done correctly in the first stage - the secrecy, the agreement to disagree, the open-ended process, and postponing difficult issues for the future while hoping for a change for the better in the psychological climate - enabled the initial breakthrough to materialize," he said.

"On the other hand, these very elements account for the fact that the process is not going well now. There was no massive support for the process because of the Hamas

suicide bombings and a better psychological climate was not created.

"No provision was made for discussing Jerusalem, borders, settlements, control of water resources, security, the issue of refugees, and the future shape of the emerging Palestinian entity...."

"The Sadat initiative, in contrast, was well put together in a comprehensive package that resolved every minute issue of disagreement beforehand, which is why the negotiations in Camp David and elsewhere were so lengthy."

"When all the issues were ironed out this led to a peace agreement which is still stable and which I consider to be very successful, despite the failure to bring about real normalization," he added.

TORTURE

Continued from Page 1

According to the law, "a man is relieved of criminal responsibility for an action which he was required to carry out on the spot to save his life, body, or property or those of another, from the danger of serious injury, and there was no other way to prevent it."

In its petition, ACRI argued that the "necessity defense" could only be applied retroactively if the person accused of the crime could prove he had acted within the constraints of the provision.

Nitzan argued that the court should not discuss the principle of whether the interrogative methods are legal or not, but should deal with specific cases that come before it while the detainee is still under interrogation on their own merits, because the circumstances of each case are different.

Justice Mishael Cheshin rejected the argument.

Nitzan then argued that if the court accepted ACRI's request for a total ban on violent shaking, it would in essence be throwing out the "necessity defense" argument altogether.

That would mean that no matter how crucial the information a detainee possessed, interrogators would never be allowed to use

illegal methods to extract it.

Court President Aharon Barak rejected this argument. "You do not understand the difference between the fact that the 'necessity defense' is anchored in the law and your insistence that it be granted automatically in advance," he said.

Nitzan also argued that in some cases, it has been clearly proven that the use of violent shaking is the only way to extract vital information which prevented terrorist attacks. He added that the GSS does not use this technique routinely, but only in a limited number of cases.

But the justices interrupted Justice Dalia Dorner. Granting automatic immunity can only be

done through legislation. The fact that there is a GSS bill pending in the Knesset makes things worse, because it shows in which direction the state is going. The fact that there is no mention of these interrogative methods in this bill is astonishing, because that is precisely where the problem lies.

Barak: If that's the case, [the state] must go to the Knesset and ask it to legislate automatic immunity.

CORRECTION

The television profile *Teddy Kollek - A Love Story* will be broadcast on Channel 1 at 20:15 on Saturday, and not as published yesterday.

Two arrested for attempted Harari hit

Police arrested two suspects yesterday in connection with the shooting in Cafe Givatayim two weeks ago. A Hod Hasharon resident, 21, and a Rehovot resident, 32, are suspected of shooting into the cafe in an attempt to murder Roni Harari, the twin brother of a leader of the Ramat Amichad gang. Harari was lightly injured in the shooting; nine others were lightly to moderately injured and a waiter was seriously injured. A remand hearing is scheduled for this morning. (Itim)

CABINET

Continued from Page 1

In addition to his session with Sharon - the first since their falling out last week - Netanyahu also had separate talks with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Lim reported that, at the cabinet meeting, Science Minister Michael Elitan warned against a confrontation with the US and Europe on the outstanding political issues before the current situation is discussed at the governmental level.

"It is possible that there may be no alternative other than to give the Americans a negative answer," Elitan said, "but it is important that the government deliberate

about this and give its assent."

Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom contended that if the government gives up 13% of the West Bank, "this will be a catastrophe."

Netanyahu also confirmed reports that he plans to ask the US for \$1 billion in aid to help carry out any redeployment.

Earlier in the day, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani suggested the Americans are not serious about breaking off the mediation efforts, and that US officials are simply trying to exert pressure on Israel.

"I definitely think that there is psychological warfare on various levels," Kahalani told Army Radio.

Egypt is contacting its Arab neighbors to put together an international conference on the peace process that would initially exclude Palestinians and Israelis, the Egyptian news agency reported yesterday.

The goal of the conference, which was proposed Monday by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and French President Jacques Chirac, apparently would be to press the US to pressure Israel to be more forthcoming in talks.

The two leaders agreed to exclude Israel and the Palestinians from the first phase of the conference to avoid bickering, the London-based *al-Hayat* newspaper reported.

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PM: No unity government

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made it clear at a meeting of Likud ministers yesterday that he has no intention of forming a national unity government or advancing the elections.

"We have a government, we have a way. Anyone who wants to join us must accept our way," Netanyahu stated.

However, senior figures in both the Likud and Labor parties estimate that when it's time for Netanyahu to decide on the pull-back and going on with the peace process he will be forced to take one of these two options. In other words, they estimate, by the end of the year we will be facing either early elections or a national unity government.

After the Likud ministers' meeting, Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom

announced, at the prime minister's request, "The prime minister does not intend at this stage to advance the elections."

Labor leader Ehud Barak, who is abroad until the end of the week, said before leaving that a national unity government is not on the agenda. Barak, who met Netanyahu at the latter's request before the prime minister's departure to Washington, said the prime minister wanted to consult him on state affairs and update him on the peace process. He denied the two had discussed either the possibility of a national unity government or early elections.

Earlier this week, however, MK Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (Labor) called for a unity government, while MK Haim Ramon (Labor) said such a possibility should not be rejected out of hand, if Netanyahu makes a serious offer.

Neeman after meeting with European diplomats:

EU not imposing sanctions, threats

By DAVID HARRIS and DOUGLAS DAVIS

Following heated warnings to the European Union by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Israeli officials yesterday waged a campaign to dissuade the EU from taking steps against goods produced by Israelis in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights and east Jerusalem.

The representatives in Israel of the EU and its 15 member states met with Finance Minister Yaacov Neeman and the directors-general of the Foreign Ministry, Treasury, and Industry and Trade Ministry.

The meeting was scheduled well before the European Commission issued a paper last week condemning Israel for exporting goods from the West Bank, Gaza Strip, east Jerusalem and Golan Heights with "made in Israel" labels.

The commission maintains that

according to international law, those areas do not constitute part of Israel and therefore goods produced in them should be excluded from duty-free treatment accorded other Israeli goods.

After the meeting, the only comment on the European side came from UK Ambassador David Manning, who described the talks as "constructive."

Neeman said: "We have agreed to continue our meetings, with the hope of having a continuing dialogue. It was very clear in the meeting that the European community is not imposing any sanctions or any threats on Israel."

However, Nati Tamir, charge d'affaires at the Israel mission to the EU in Brussels, said yesterday during an interview with *The Post*: "The Union has made clear that it does not see eye to eye with Israel."

For the first time, he said, the 15-member bloc is moving from



Michael Ryan (Brian Hendler)

"stating its position to trying to force its position on us."

During the meeting, Neeman made it clear that he is unhappy with the paper, one of those attending said. "There was no rhetoric or vitriolic exchange. It was very even, very measured,"

said the participant. Netanyahu warned the EU Tuesday against "the use of ultimatums and dictates of any kind" and added that Palestinian workers would pay the price of an EU policy shift.

The proposal on excluding goods from the territories from free trade arrangements must be unanimously approved by the European Council of Ministers—a meeting of all foreign ministers of the 15 EU member-states—before it comes into effect.

Tamir said the subject had been removed from the agenda of the May 25 council meeting, but was likely to be discussed informally at "lunch meetings" and would be on the agenda at the next council meeting on June 8 in Luxembourg.

Tamir said Israel would discuss technical issues, which includes facilitating imports and exports from the Palestinian-controlled

areas, but insisted that it "opposed any discussion of topics that are disguised as economic but are, in fact, political."

He said he hoped the council of ministers would "study the issue in depth and carefully weigh the pros and cons because of the very crucial nature of the proposals." On a related issue, Neeman told the meeting with European officials that he favors the commencement of negotiations on regional cumulation of origin. Currently goods produced in Israel or jointly in Israel and the EU are exported duty free to Europe. However, items manufactured jointly by Israel and its neighbors do not qualify for this.

The EU's representative at the meeting, its Tel Aviv Counsellor Michael Ryan, made it clear that "houses would have to be put in order before we could launch a discussion on cumulation," a participant said.

Bentsur: Singapore refuses to host Netanyahu

By JAY BUSHENSKY and news agencies

An official bid to include Singapore on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's itinerary en route to or from China next week failed to obtain approval from the authorities there, Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur said yesterday.

The reason given by Singapore in turning down the proposed stop was that "the timing was inconvenient," he said.

Another official said the reason for Singapore's refusal was the deadlock in Mideast peace talks.

After the request was made several days ago, Ambassador Danny Megiddo was summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Singapore,

said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Megiddo was told that if the visit took place, the hosts would have to criticize Israel's positions in the negotiations in public and that this would not help bilateral relations.

Since the 1980s, Singapore has been buying sophisticated military equipment from Israel, and the defense ministries of the two countries have friendly relations. Israel has also trained Singaporean military personnel.

However, Singapore has a Moslem Malay minority that might disturb racial harmony.

Singapore's two nearest neighbors, Malaysia and Indonesia, are both Moslem countries that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

Singapore is also a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which has criticized settlement construction in the territories.

Bentsur said negotiations are under way with Singapore on an alternative date, possibly in conjunction with Netanyahu's projected trip to Australia in August.

Several countries belonging to the Confederation of Independent States were said to be vying for a Netanyahu visit during his August visit.

Uzbekistan evidently is the leading candidate, in which case the prime minister would land in Tashkent on the way to or from Beijing.

He is scheduled to leave for China on Sunday night.



Rabin memorial park dedicated

Former prime minister Shimon Peres and Leah Rabin plant trees at the dedication at Latrun yesterday of the JNF's 12,000 dunam park in memory of Yitzhak Rabin, as associate chairman of the JNF directorate Yehiel Leket (center) looks on. At the ceremony, Peres emphasized that there is no contradiction between peace and having united Jerusalem as Israel's capital. (Teat: Jlm)

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Boycotting goods

"The European Union took out its strongest bargaining chip," writes Hebrew University European expert Prof. Alfred Tobias in *Yedioth Aharonot*, referring to the union's intention to boycott goods produced by Israelis in the territories. He adds that because the Europeans have a direct trade agreement with the Palestinians, they can try to pressure Israel into a trilateral agreement, forcing it to accept the Palestinians as an independent international entity.

Uri Avneri in *Ma'ariv* states that the peace camp in Israel, which announced the boycott a few months ago, has accelerated it. He adds that at a time when the government is planning to expand the settlements, which hinder the peace process, "no one can sit back, curse those who destroy the peace, and simultaneously drink the wine produced in the settlements."

Elyakim Ha'etzi in *Yedioth* agrees that the Europeans have taken the cue from Israelis who boycotted the products. He complains that the internal war is waged with no remorse and with a zeal "which only the Jews are capable of." He concludes that one should deal calmly with the situation "in which in the generation of the Holocaust, Israel turned to the Germans with a demand to boycott Jews in their country."

Internal logic

Reports claiming that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has agreed to a 13 percent withdrawal, followed by his denial, are a "communications deceit meant to check the political uproar, only to be later doused with water before the fire of rebellion spreads throughout the coalition," writes *Ma'ariv's* Chemi Shalev.

He insists that Netanyahu knows exactly what he is doing, by deceiving the public. "Netanyahu has managed to perplex the public, a majority of which thinks that the prime minister is committed to the peace process in his own way."

Yosef Harif, also in *Ma'ariv*, believes that one thing is clear: "Netanyahu knows what he is striving for." Harif adds that Netanyahu agreed to the 13 percent withdrawal in exchange for the implementation of all Palestinian commitments. "Netanyahu believes that if he turns to the coalition and public with this deal, he will win the majority's support."

Power struggles

The decision not to have female soldiers sing at President Ezer Weizman's inauguration stirred controversy.

Gail Hareven in *Ma'ariv* supports MK Avraham Poraz's deci-

sion to leave the session as a political protest and states that it was a good strategy which promoted secular-religious symmetry. "Because tolerance is defined in the religious community as a sign of hedonist indifference and as a proof of lack of values, the secular community has no option but to demonstrate anger to set fair boundaries between the camps."

"Why does Israel surrender time after time to the religious moral code and not to the liberal-democratic code?" ponders Yuli Tamir in *Yedioth*, puzzled by the fact that women could be discriminated against to spare the feelings of the haredim. "The representatives of the majority... are deluding themselves that it is only a ceremony, only a dance, only song."

Ha'aretz's Yair Sheleg claims that the secular struggle against religious coercion on the public front is a grave mistake, because it is exactly the place where the religious have a right to be considered. He states that there are signs indicating a change among influential forces in the religious community which show a readiness to show greater consideration for the individual freedom of the secular. "It is a shame to miss the opportunity [for rapprochement] by focusing the attention on the struggle for the right of women to sing before the haredi MKs."

Ben-Meir: Yarmuk dam won't harm Israel's water supply

By DAVID RUDGE

Israel's water resources are unlikely to be affected by a proposed Syrian-Jordanian hydroelectric dam project on the upper reaches of the Yarmuk River, according to Water Commissioner Meir Ben-Meir.

Syria and Jordan recently signed an agreement to carry out such a project on the common border of the two countries, at a cost of \$420 million.

Under the proposal, the dam would store 225 million cubic meters of water, of which Jordan would receive 120 mcm, a year and Syria just 8 mcm. In contrast, 70 percent of the electricity generated by the hydroelectric plant would be transferred to Syria with the remainder going to Jordan.

The Yarmuk River itself flows down into the Jordan River, south of Lake Kinneret. In the past, Israel has pumped water from the Yarmuk back into the Kinneret, while allowing most of the water to be diverted into Jordanian territory for the use of farmers there.

In addition, under the terms of the peace accord between Israel and Jordan, around 50 mcm of water are transferred to Jordan every year primarily from Lake Kinneret.

Ben-Meir said yesterday that he was not overly concerned about the proposed hydroelectric dam project.

"It is obvious that anything that is done upstream can affect the quantities of water downstream,

everybody understands that," Ben-Meir said.

"The question, however, is not whether anything is going to be done upstream but what are the dimensions of that activity."

"I have no doubt that they [the Jordanians] will not do anything that would jeopardize the agreements that we have reached according to the peace treaty and the water annex," he said.

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J'lem annexation plan to be presented

By ELI WOHLGELER

The final plan to annex municipalities west of Jerusalem to help strengthen the capital's Jewish population will be submitted on Sunday to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, who will then study it before passing it on to the cabinet and Knesset a week later.

In another effort to protect the plan, residents of Mevasseret Zion, Motza, Tzur Hadassah and other communities surrounding Jerusalem demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday morning, hoping a further show of opposition would head off the government's intentions.

The plan calls for expanding the city's borders by unifying its suburbs into a single administrative unit. It follows a recent population survey which predicted that the city's Arab population in the year 2020 would exceed 40 percent, up from the current 30%.

The current plan would help the capital's housing shortage by building 100,000 additional housing units in the annexed areas, which would insure the current demographic ratio by 2010.

"The annexation of Mevasseret Zion and Tzur Hadassah will not help Jerusalem at all," said MK Ran Cohen, who spoke at yesterday's rally. "Jerusalem has a lot of problems, which the government has to help the city [solve], like in

education, health, unemployment and other areas. But annexing Mevasseret and others will not help anything. This is just a lie, a [fragment of someone's] imagination that this will help."

Ron Zweig, a resident of Mevasseret for 19 years, said any individual who wanted to make a change on his property has to present plans and bring it to a committee for public discussion.

"Here the government is acting in a very arbitrary manner, avoiding due process, bypassing accepted procedures in order to rush through something that in my opinion is not only designed to improve the demographic balance of Jerusalem, but reeks of possible land grabbing for real estate devel-

opers," Zweig said. "We are extremely suspicious. We believe it is not only against our immediate interests, it is against the interests of the entire Israeli public, and it is an attempt to undermine due process."

The plan was prepared by a committee made up of ministry directors-general who are involved in Jerusalem affairs, and chaired by Moshe Leon, head of the Prime Minister's Office.

It calls for establishing a Greater Metropolitan Jerusalem council to oversee planning, construction, infrastructure, environment, information, economic development, tourism, emergencies and security, health, immigration absorption and cemeteries, according to Ha'aretz.

Shmuel Sorek, head of the non-profit organization fighting the annexation, said he was suspicious of the haste the government has made in pushing through the plan.

"We believe that there may be political pressures [being brought] to speed things up, maybe because of the talks with the Palestinians," he said.

"They're in a big hurry to finish it quickly - why are they not taking the regular route through the Knesset or through a special committee that should have been established? There is a proper procedure, and they are doing a lot of shortcuts, and the shortcuts are coming from something political either inside or outside of Israel."

Acre Festival asks ministry for emergency funding

By HELEN KAYE

Warning that the Acre Festival was in "imminent danger of collapse," the management of the country's major repertory theaters has sent a letter to Education and Culture Minister Yitzhak Levy requesting his "immediate intervention" to help it recoup funding.

The letter specifies that the Arts and Culture Authority should pay a disputed NIS 750,000, which the festival says it is owed for 1997.

"This is an emergency that has to be settled," said Acre Festival artistic director Roni Nimio, adding that the minister was the

only one who could cut through bureaucracy to accomplish that. Levy's aides could not be reached for comment yesterday.

ACA head Micha Yonin said there will be a meeting on Sunday with the minister and the ministry's comptroller to discuss an auditor's report on the transactions of the Cultural Association, a now defunct body that was responsible for the disbursement of ACA funds to the festival.

ACA theater department head Sara Lissovsky said she has not yet had time to study the report "but we are going to do our best to see that Acre happens."

Ran Cohen: PM, Likud conducting witch-hunt against IBA workers

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) yesterday accused Likud leaders and the Prime Minister's Office of conducting a witch-hunt against workers at the Israel Broadcasting Authority, and warned against the "politicization" of the IBA.

Cohen was referring to the accusations that IBA people tried to "doctor" or fabricate the shouts of "death to Arabs" which were heard during Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech in Channel 1's report of the Betar Jerusalem victory celebrations.

He called for an urgent meeting

of the State Control Committee with IBA director Uri Porat and news director Rafik Halabi to watch the broadcast and discuss it.

Cohen said the celebrations were broadcast live on Channel 33 and demanded that the unedited film and the Israel Radio soundtracks, if there are any, as well as the report broadcast later on Channel 1's *Mabat*, be brought to the committee so that they could be compared and evaluated.

"As far as I know the suggestion that the soundtrack was doctored and the shouts from the audience were amplified has been proven false. I suspect IBA

workers, fearing political pressure, censored the shouts of 'Ehud Barak is a son of a bitch.' This proves the threats and politicization of the IBA are already having effect and scaring the workers," Cohen said.

He asked the state comptroller to prepare an opinion on the matter.

Earlier this week, Porat summoned the radio and television directors for an urgent discussion and asked if the report had been "doctored," as senior Likud figures had charged.

Those attending said the soundtrack of "death to Arabs" had not been amplified, but that the report

had been edited.

Porat refused to comment, but reportedly said he intends to conclude the matter within a few days and issue a statement.

Also this week, threats were made on the life of *Mabat* anchor Geula Even. The threats arrived with a package, addressed to Even, containing an Israel flag and a kippa on which swastikas were drawn. A letter which came with the parcel said: "The Israeli Nazi party has decided to execute you," and "Heil Hitler."

A similar package with threats on the Halabi's life was delivered to ITV headquarters a month ago.

A possible cure for allergies?

A message of "Don't plant it there!" went out from the Knesset yesterday, which passed at preliminary reading three bills limiting the planting in residential areas of trees to which many people have allergic reactions.

The bills were presented by Yossi Sarid (Meretz), Avi Yehzekel (Labor) and Avner Shaki (National Religious Party) and signed by other MKs.

The MKs said some 600,000 people in Israel are allergic to certain trees which cause them to suffer from different symptoms ranging from asthmatic attacks to sore eyes. Under the bill, the Environment Ministry would define which trees fall in this category. Yehzekel's bill mentions olive trees, cypress trees, pecans, some terebinths, junipers and palms. Trees which are already growing will not be cut down.

The bills have been opposed by members of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, who are calling for more detailed research on the issue and addressing it by better planning and landscaping.

Arabs are still 'absent'

After a particularly charged debate, the Knesset yesterday rejected a bill by Hadassah whip Salah Salim under which Arabs

born here but absent during the years of the population census between 1948 and 1952 would be granted full citizenship. Today, they can vote in local elections but not for the Knesset.

The bill failed by one vote, 39-38.

"Fifty years after the State of Israel was created, the government rejects any expression of democracy," Salim said.

MK Michael Kleiner (Geshet), who heads the Land of Israel Front, accused Labor of supporting "a Law of Return for Arabs to help [Labor leader Ehud] Barak in his struggle for the Arab vote."

Stamp of approval required

Third Way whip Yehuda Harel has complained that coalition whip Meir Sheerit is trying to interfere with the independence of MKs.

Harel has sent a letter to Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon complaining about a written instruction from Sheerit to the heads of all the coalition factions demanding that no bills be submitted which do not have government approval.

The phrasing covers controversial

benefit." Sheerit said in response that any coalition who wants to present a bill opposed by the government could raise the matter with the coalition executive and in consultation with the relevant minister.

Harel said: "The independence of the Knesset and its members is of utmost value in a democracy. I won't allow the coalition to take away the right to submit bills for the public's

the only legislator to object to the bill, calling it "a paternalistic attempt to 'educate' the public in a matter which is entirely one of personal rights."

Shaki said Zucker's approach would mean that youths would not get the protection they need.

Row over school funding

At the end of a motion by MK Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) saying haredim are discriminated against in funding for education, secular students in the visitors' gallery held up placards demanding free tuition in universities to match funds for yeshiva students.

Ravitz noted that the Education Ministry does not allocate any budget at all to special education Talmud Torah schools, which have 33,000 students.

He said that in other Talmud Torah schools, the state provides only 60-65% of what it budgets for regular state school students.

Bill for pregnancy care

The Knesset yesterday passed final reading of a bill by Tamar Gozansky (Hadash) under which a pregnant woman will not have deducted for a visit to a gynecologist. Until now these visits were recognized only if carried out at "Tipat Halav" clinics.



Irving Schneider recognized for contributions to health care

Ayal Beer presents Irving Schneider, founder of the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva, with a picture of patients expressing their appreciation for his work. Beer, who was treated in the hospital's oncology department, gave Schneider the picture yesterday during the ceremony to award him the Adler Prize for his work to provide health care to children.

(Dan Orensky/Israel Sun)

Local technology allows transmission of digital video films

By JUDY SIEGEL

Israeli-developed technology has made it possible to transmit digital video films of cardiovascular

catheterization cheaply and in real time. This will allow cardiologists in different cities, countries or continents to consult with each other. The technology was developed

by the Medcon company in Tel Aviv after working with cardiologists from Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital. Until now, only satellite technology and video cameras could send such material, at a cost of tens of thousands of shekels an hour.

The new system, which was tried out yesterday, uses simple ISDN (integrated services digital network) phone lines to dispatch the video pictures of catheterization - a procedure in which a catheter is pushed through the femoral vein into the heart to locate clogged coronary arteries. Medcon developed a way to send large amounts of digitized images in a few minutes.

Shaare Zedek is now linked to leading cardiology departments in the US, France, Italy, Holland and Portugal, where the same Medcon systems are installed.

Prof. Dan Tzivoni, head of Shaare Zedek's cardiology department, and Dr. Yaron Almagor, director of the catheterization unit, said the system makes it possible for cardiologists in small, peripheral hospitals around the world who have less experience to consult with senior experts in major hospitals. Shaare Zedek has equipped all its doctors' rooms in the cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery department with terminals to watch what's happening in the catheterization room.

In addition, video films of the procedures are stored digitally, easing the procedures of finding patients' films. The cardiologist also may record his comments about the cases on the video films themselves.

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Swiss deplore US bank sanctions bill

BERN (AP) - The Swiss government said yesterday it will file a protest with the US over New Jersey legislation to punish Swiss banks over World War II assets. Spokesman Achille Casanova said the ruling cabinet, or Federal Council, would take further steps if the legislation, approved Monday by the New Jersey Assembly, also passes the Senate and is signed into law by Gov. Christie Whitman.

Whitman has said she is in accord with the goals of the bill but hesitant to enact sanctions. Among Swiss options would be a complaint before the World Trade Organization, which could

issue a binding ruling that such sanctions violate global trade rules, said Casanova.

If the WTO were to issue such a ruling, the law would have to be repealed or the US would be liable to pay compensation.

Economics Minister Pascal Couchepin raised the issue when he met in Geneva with US Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, an aide said.

Couchepin stressed that the New Jersey vote was in clear contradiction to world trade rules, which ban discrimination, said his spokesman, Yves Seydoux.

Barshefsky said later she reassured Couchepin that the Clinton

administration would continue to work with Switzerland and oppose sanctions.

"I told the minister the US doesn't support the action proposed by New Jersey," she said. "The Federal Council condemns the decision by the House of Representatives of New Jersey to pass a law to boycott Swiss banks in this American state," Casanova told reporters.

He said the protest would be presented today to US Ambassador Madeleine May Kunin.

Kunin's spokeswoman, Mary Ellen Koenig, confirmed that US President Bill Clinton assured Swiss officials in Geneva on

Monday that he opposes such sanctions. She also said the bill still has a long way to go before becoming law.

Casanova recalled that the US and Swiss governments issued a joint declaration last March calling such sanctions "unjustified and counterproductive."

Rolf Bloch, a prominent Swiss Jewish leader, also expressed his opposition to the New Jersey bill.

Speaking at an assembly of the Swiss Federation of Hebrew Congregations, he advocated dialogue as the best means of shedding light on the past and ensuring justice.

The Swiss cabinet said it appreciates the approval expressed this

week by Clinton and separately by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for the steps Switzerland has taken to review its neutral role during World War II and to right any wrongs.

Among the measures are a US-led audit of Swiss bank accounts in search of any unclaimed assets of depositors who were killed by the Nazis.

Despite objections from the US State Department, the bill approved Monday in Trenton would ban state investments in Swiss banks or financial institutions unless they cooperate in returning assets to the families of Holocaust victims.

NEWS

in brief

Cabinet discusses boycott of jubilee exhibition

In an effort to reverse the decision by several ministries not to participate in the Israel Achievements exhibition, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will discuss the question at the Sunday cabinet meeting, the Jubilee Association announced yesterday. The non-participating ministries include Tourism, National Infrastructure, Absorption, Finance and Justice.

The Tourism Ministry already has declared its preference for using its budget to promote tourism for the year 2000. Absorption Ministry spokesman Yehuda Glick said that the Jubilee Association had turned down its offer of immigrant performers for the exhibition, to be held in August at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds. "We want to use our money for the integration of immigrants, not self-promotion," he said. *Helen Kaye*

Channel 2 to pull ad showing 'unsafe driving'

Channel 2 has announced that the Fanta soft drink commercial is to be pulled off the air on Sunday. The decision followed complaints from the public and from the National Council for the Prevention of Accidents that the commercial showed young people in a car "not driving safely." Channel 2's rules provide for the cancellation of commercials "which show behavior that may be prejudicial to health or safety." *Helen Kaye*

Youth crime on the rise

The crime rate among Israeli youths rose by 11 percent during the first four months of this year compared with the same period during 1997, according to remarks in Haifa yesterday by Shmuel Abuav, chairman of the education committee in the Center for Local Government. There were two cases of murders involving youths, according to police statistics, and a sharp rise in cases of rape. The largest rise in crimes came in the southern district, according to police figures. Abuav said a meeting is planned with Police Commander Yehuda Wilk to discuss steps "to burn out the legitimacy which violence has attained in Israeli society and which is now permeating the youth." *Itim*

Police unit to investigate copying music

A special police unit will be formed to investigate the illegal copying of music, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said yesterday. Kahalani made the announcement after he and Cmdr. Yossi Sidbon, head of the police's investigative branch, met with representatives of Akum, the composers union.

The Akum representatives said that it is often difficult to differentiate between the imitations and the original CDs and tapes. Thousands of illegal copies are being sold only 48 hours after an album is released, they said. *Itim*

Man sentenced in killing over garbage

Shimon Gavi, 64, of Tel Aviv, who was convicted of the October 1997 killing of his neighbor Yosef Bolidi during a quarrel over taking out the garbage, was sentenced to eight years in prison and 18 months' probation by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. Bolidi and Gavi, a member of the residents' committee, were arguing over who was throwing garbage into the hallway, when Gavi went into his kitchen, came out with a knife, and stabbed Bolidi. Gavi was originally charged with murder, but in a plea bargain, the charge was reduced to manslaughter. *Itim*

TAU holds ceremony for new auditorium

A cornerstone-laying ceremony for the new Miriam and Adolfo Smolarz Auditorium on the Tel Aviv University campus took place yesterday. The building provides the university with a medium-sized hall (1,200 seats) suitable for scientific colloquia, graduation and awards ceremonies, major conferences and special events. The auditorium contains a stage appropriate for concerts and other events in the performing arts and a reception hall.

The building was designed by Israel Prize laureate Prof. Abraham Yasky, head of the TAU David Azrieli School of Architecture. Yasky was granted the Israel Prize in recognition of his contribution to Israeli architecture and in particular for design of the campus of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Colonel to probe training accident

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine has appointed a colonel to head an investigation into an incident in which an IDF soldier was lightly wounded from a grenade explosion during a training exercise yesterday on the Golan Heights. The soldier was lightly injured when a sun grenade exploded close to him during the exercise. He was treated in the area and later taken to the hospital. *David Rudge*

Ra'anana, Bethlehem to be twinned with Verona

Ra'anana Mayor Ze'ev Bielski will participate in a ceremony this weekend launching the twinning of his city with Verona, the municipality announced yesterday. Bethlehem will also be twinned with Verona, and will be represented at the ceremony by Mayor Hana Nasser. "Verona is an ancient city steeped in a marvelous cultural tradition and famed for its opera and music, education and culture," Bielski said. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Shabbat flights pose hurdle for El Al 'allies'

By HAIM SHAPIRO

The head of Lufthansa Airlines said yesterday that Lufthansa could only consider admitting El Al into its international Star Alliance of airlines if Israel's national airline would fly on Shabbat.

Juergen Weber, president and chief executive officer of the German airline, who is visiting Israel on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the state and the 30th anniversary of Lufthansa's flights to Israel, said that he had met with El Al chairman Yosef Chiechanover and director-general Yoel Feldschuh.

"I would not exclude El Al as a partner in the long range, but it would have to fill lots of conditions," Weber said at a press luncheon. "For example, it would have to fly every day," Weber said at a press luncheon.

The two airlines, he said, had set up a task force to explore possibilities of cooperation, including possible code-sharing, but a full commercial alliance "could not come without the daily flights, he said.

In addition to Lufthansa, the Star Alliance includes United Airlines, Air Canada, VARIG, SAS, and Thai Airlines.

Weber noted that Israel is one of the most successful routes in the Lufthansa network and that the airline would like to increase the number of flights a week from the present 15 to 21. He pointed out that Lufthansa and El Al were already cooperating in the realm of cargo transport, with Lufthansa sending much of its freight on El Al's cargo planes.

Weber's visit was accompanied by media fireworks in the form of an Israeli Radio report yesterday in which an Israeli Lufthansa passenger accused a Lufthansa ground crew supervisor in Germany of calling him a "dirty Jew."

The passenger said that he had been entitled to an upgrade from tourist class to business class, but the check-in clerk had refused to allocate the upgrade. According to the passenger, the check-in clerk referred him to a supervisor who told him that if he was dissatisfied, he could go down the hall to El Al, which "deals with your people."

The passenger said that when he complained that the supervisor sounded like an antisemite, the supervisor told him he was a "dirty Jew."

Weber said the airline was investigating the report and if it was true, he extended his apologies.



Stamps for Israel's fiftieth

Postal Authority Director-General Moshe Tery (left) speaks with the United Nations postal authority head Harold Shover yesterday at the international philatelic exhibit in honor of Israel's fiftieth anniversary being held at the Tel Aviv Exhibition Grounds. (Paz Bar)

50th anniversary of 'Wings of Eagles' marked

By LIAT COLLINS

"I always wanted to find me a Yemenite bride," President Ezer Weizman revealed yesterday at a gathering in the Knesset marking 50 years since Operation Wings of Eagles which brought Yemenite Jewry to Israel.

Instead, he noted, he married a woman with a common Yemenite Jewish name, Reuma. And popular singer Shoshana Damari, one of the hundreds of guests at the gathering, recalled that she had even sung at their wedding.

Prime Minister Binyamin

Netanyahu, together with his wife Sara, made a point of meeting with a small group of more recent immigrants from Yemen, who arrived just a week ago.

Talking of the mass immigration campaign 50 years ago, Netanyahu said, "This aliya has the force of the exodus from Egypt

and it's important it be told like the story of the exodus from Egypt."

He suggested the gathering next year be held in the garden of his home together with Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, who is also of Yemenite origin.

Doctors claim restricted referrals endanger patients

By JUDY SIEGEL

The growing tendency of health funds to restrict their referrals of members to hospital outpatient clinics is "endangering patients' health" and wreaking financial havoc in the hospitals. This was claimed yesterday by the Association of State Hospital Doctors and the Association of Health Consumers.

The organizations held a press conference at which they stated that the National Health Insurance Law gives patients the right to choose where they will be treated.

Dr. Elisha Bartov, head of the doctors' association, said that hospital doctors are the most highly trained, failing to send seriously ill patients to outpatient clinics and, instead, sending them to community clinic doctors "can cause irreversible damage to their health," he said.

In addition, Bartov said, it is a "horrible waste of hospital specialists' knowhow and facilities. The health funds are perhaps saving money in the short run, but in the long run, patients whose conditions are diagnosed late or who are not treated continuously will need repeated hospitalization and more urgent care."

Meikad Gisin, chairman of the health consumers' organization, said that paragraph 23 of the health

insurance law gives the patient the right to choose "among providers of [medical] services." His organization has recently received many complaints from consumers against

is upset that the health funds are trying to become more efficient and stop the great waste of sending patients to outpatient clinics."

Amikam added that the health



Dr. Elisha Bartov (Thamer Mizrahi)



Shlomo Ariel (Thamer Mizrahi)

their health funds.

Health Ministry acting spokesman Yair Amikam commented that the ministry was "shocked" to hear such criticism from the head of the State Hospital Doctors' Association.

"There has never been such a harsh struggle against the Treasury over health budgets as Health Minister Yehoshua Matza has been making during the past year. Apparently the doctors' association

funds "give excellent and professional service to their members, and all surveys show an increase in public satisfaction from the level of medicine and service in the health funds." He acknowledged that the surveys did not investigate the specific point of restrictions in getting referrals to the hospitals.

Amikam said the health insurance law gives patients the right to choose among hospitals when

given a referral slip from their health fund, but not between doctors in health fund community clinics on the one hand, and those in hospital outpatient clinics, which are more expensive. Asked whether hospital outpatient clinics should therefore be closed, the ministry spokesman said, "They serve a purpose for services not available at the health funds; patients' doctors will decide what to do on the basis of professional, rather than extraneous, considerations."

Recently, patients' groups and the Hadassah Medical Organization persuaded Health Ministry director-general Prof. Gabi Barabash to act on behalf of dialysis and organ transplant patients. Clalit had insisted that their frequent tests could be conducted in their own community clinics and refused to refer the patients to clinics in hospitals where they were having on-going examinations and treatment. However, Barabash told Clalit it would have to pay for such visits to outpatient clinics.

Bartov said that people who have complaints about referrals should fax them to (03)-612-1012 and the organizations will forward them to the prime minister, ministers, MKs, State Comptroller, heads of the health system and district health officers.

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The lesser evil

Maneuvers over how to handle Iran's internal struggle between moderates and radicals are rapidly intensifying. Hardliners are digging in. European companies and Russian arms merchants are moving in, and US policy is standing firm in words while making concessions in practice.

How the West copes with Middle East radical regimes and their drives to obtain or improve weapons of mass destruction is a major Israeli security interest. But this situation is also a test of the value of international guarantees for the faltering peace process.

A year ago, US intelligence doubled - while Israeli intelligence correctly assessed - Iran's dramatic progress on long-range missile development.

Dealing with Iran right now is an extremely delicate and complex matter. The power struggle between the popular but not necessarily powerful President Mohammed Khatami and his rivals could go either way. Indeed, one of the most likely outcomes is a deal: the radicals let Khatami make economic reforms and widen individual freedoms; Khatami lets the radicals continue their terrorism, arms development projects, and vitriolic opposition to Israel.

As an Iranian-born expert put it recently, in the long run, support for Khatami's line will grow but this could take several years. Ironically, much of the opening toward Iran, especially from Saudi Arabia and its neighboring monarchies, arises from an understandable belief that Iran is a lesser evil, useful in countering a revived Iraq.

In a major, though not unexpected, decision, US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on May 18 refused to impose sanctions against French and Russian companies making a huge natural gas deal with Iran. It's important to note that lower oil and gas income has been a major incentive for Iran's slower arms' build-up and domestic discontent with radical policies.

Optimistically, Albright attributed the decision to "the significant, enhanced cooperation we have achieved with the European Union and Russia in inhibiting Iran's ability to develop weapons of mass destruction and support of terrorism." Albright stated that the Europeans would cooperate more with the US on anti-proliferation efforts, while Russia is "establishing supervisory bodies in all enterprises dealing with missile, or nuclear technologies."

At the same time, Albright maintained the traditional US line toward Tehran: "While there are indications that the Iranian government may be

trying to improve its relationship with the West, we have not seen substantial change in Iranian policies of greatest concern." She reaffirmed US opposition to oil pipelines crossing Iran and voiced continued support for Israel's anti-missile program.

One man who determined that Iran's policies won't change is

Barry Rubin

Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) commander Yahya Rahim Safavi. Michael Eisenstadt, a military analyst at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, writes that Safavi lashed out against President Khatami in a closed meeting of officers saying, "Liberals have taken over our uni-

versities and our youth are now shouting slogans against despotism. We are seeking to root out counter-revolutionaries wherever they are. We have to behead some and cut off the tongues of others. Our language is our sword. We will expose these cowards."

Safavi gave the case against any rapprochement with the West. "Can we withstand American threats and domineering attitude with a policy of deterrence? Can we foil dangers coming from America through dialogue between civilizations? Will we be able to protect the Islamic Republic from international Zionism by signing conventions to ban proliferation of chemical and nuclear weapons?"

While moderates criticized him, Safavi's forces are believed to control Iran's weapons of mass destruction programs.

Peter Jones, a leading arms expert at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, told me that the events following India's nuclear tests, including an accelerated Pakistani program, mean that "Iran's nuclear ambitions may be expected to heighten."

Whatever Moscow promises now, there has been a high degree of cooperation among China, North Korea, Pakistan, Iran, and Russia in developing weapons of mass destruction.

Meanwhile, Moscow is also tightening links with Syria while pushing to end sanctions against Iraq. Its efforts to expand arms sales stem more from economic than strategic motives. The bad news is that Russia is again selling weapons to potential aggressors.

The limited good news is that it is only selling what customers can pay for in hard cash.

A dramatic new step in this process is Syrian President Hafez al-Assad's acceptance of a Russian invitation last week to make one of his rare foreign trips to tighten their alliance. The message was delivered by Viktor Posuvalyuk, President Boris Yeltsin's Middle East envoy. According to Syrian radio, Posuvalyuk remarked that Russian and Syrian "positions are very close."

Voting 'yes' is hard to do

While most Catholics are expected to approve a historic peace deal on Friday's referendum, Northern Ireland's Protestants remain deeply divided

By MARJORIE MILLER

NEWTONARDS, Northern Ireland - Queen's Hall shook with foot-stomping applause as the Rev. Ian Paisley beseeched Protestants to vote against a landmark peace agreement with Northern Ireland's Roman Catholic community in this week's referendum on the accord.

Paisley, the leader of the hard-line Democratic Unionist Party, told a crowd waving Union Jacks that the power-sharing accord would lead them "fast and furious" into the fold of the Irish Republic to the south, fulfilling the goal of the Irish Republican Army.

"You can't enter common cause with Ulster's ancient enemies," Paisley railed.

At a Salvation Army hall in East Belfast, meanwhile, another Protestant leader told a more subdued crowd that the hard-fought agreement would, in fact, safeguard their union with Britain for as long as a majority of the people of Northern Ireland want it.

Men and women shifted uncomfortably in their seats as the Progressive Unionist Party leader David Ervine confirmed that, yes, IRA prisoners convicted of murder would be released from jail under the accord. And yes, leaders of the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, would sit in government alongside Protestants.

"I know it's painful," Ervine said. But he urged them to put their emotions aside and "break down the enmity" between Northern Ireland's Protestant majority and Catholic minority. "We are going to have to work together."

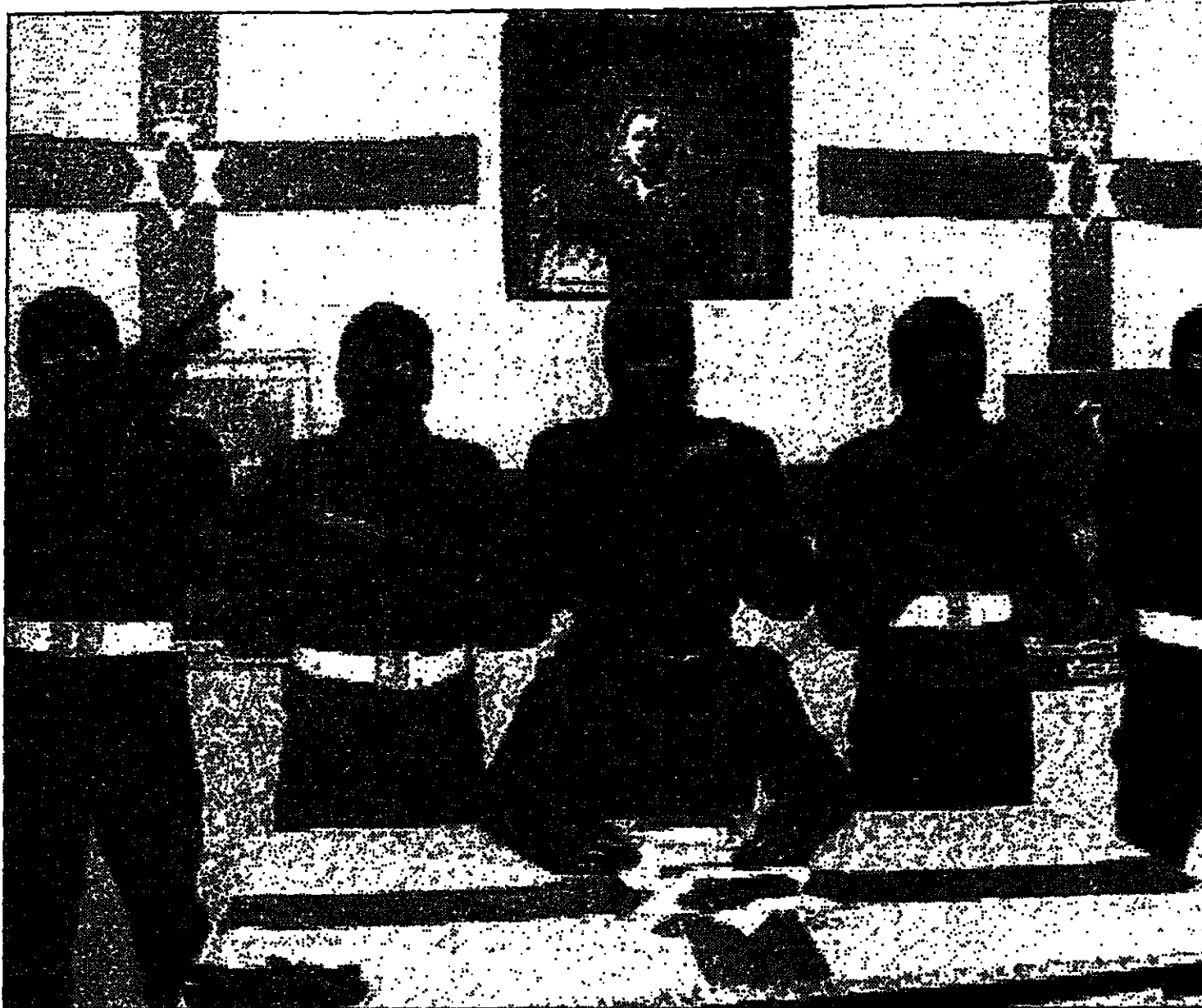
Throughout the six counties of a province long racked by sectarian violence, vigorous hearts-and-minds campaigns like these are continuing this week as pro-British Protestants battle among themselves over Friday's vote on the peace deal struck between leaders of the Protestant majority and Catholic minority last month.

Catholics have largely embraced the accord hammered out between the two sides with US mediator George J. Mitchell and the prime ministers of Britain and Ireland, and their support is likely to ensure its passage by the required simple majority.

But to gain moral legitimacy and survive even tougher battles ahead, the agreement also needs the backing of a majority of Protestant voters, which is in doubt. Protestant support for the agreement has dropped from a euphoric high of 84 percent after the conclusion of the Good Friday deal to 56% with about one-third of Protestant voters still undecided, according to an *Irish Times* poll published last week.

The Protestant campaigns have grown increasingly personal and bitter, with the opposing camps calling each other "cowards" and "traitors" and agreeing on just one point - that this is the most important political decision they will ever make.

The deal, expected to be approved by the Irish Republic in a separate referendum Friday, calls for changes in British and Irish law to ensure that the status of Northern Ireland can be decided only by its own people. Ireland



Loyalist Volunteer Force fighters announce a cease-fire outside Belfast last week in this TV image. The ruthless pro-British gang, responsible for killing more than a dozen Catholics in recent months, hope its open-ended gesture would encourage Protestant voters to reject Northern Ireland's peace accord. (AP)

would drop its constitutional claim to the six northern counties, which would remain in Northern Ireland unless a majority in Northern Ireland decides otherwise.

The Protestants are descendants of the English and the Scots who settled in Northern Ireland centuries ago. They see themselves as British. While they are a majority in Northern Ireland, they would become a minority if the province were to join the Irish Republic.

Under the agreement, a new 108-member legislature and 12-member cabinet would be elected in June, with built-in guarantees that the Protestant majority cannot discriminate against the Catholic minority.

The new assembly and Dublin-based Irish parliament would form a North-South council, the first official body to coordinate policies across all of Ireland since the end of British rule in the south almost 80 years ago.

A Council of the Isles also would link the governments in Belfast and Dublin with new legislative assemblies being set up in Scotland and Wales under London's decentralization campaign.

Prisoners from paramilitary groups honoring a cease-fire would be released within two years. The political parties, meanwhile, agree to renounce violence and work for the decommission-

ing of weapons from their affiliated armed groups.

On the face of it, Catholic nationalists would seem to have made the greatest concessions in the agreement, which falls far short of the united Ireland that the IRA has been fighting for during most of this century. Instead, they agree to institutional links to Dublin while ensuring that, at least for the time being, Northern Ireland remains in Britain. Moreover, Sinn Féin has agreed to participate in a Northern Irish government, which is anathema to its old dogma.

And yet Protestants are most unhappy about the deal, which is designed to end their lock on power, give Catholics - and most likely Sinn Féin - a foothold in government and guarantee equal rights. Most of the unionist parties still view Sinn Féin as nothing more than a front for IRA terrorists.

Supporters of the agreement acknowledge that they have a harder job trying to sell the peace agreement than those urging a "no" vote.

They say they are fighting a long-standing belief in Northern Ireland that what is good for one side must be bad for the other. By this logic, an agreement supported by Sinn Féin must be opposed by Protestants.

"Do not just judge this agree-

ment by the reactions of your opponents and enemies," Protestant negotiator David Adams urged a rally of the Ulster Democratic Party at Ulster Hall in downtown Belfast. "Make up your own minds. We have to have the self-confidence to look at the agreement on its own terms."

The Protestants' peace negotiating team was spearheaded by David Trimble, the leader of the mainstream Ulster Unionist Party. He has won the backing of most of his party's rank and file, although seven of the 10 Unionist members of British Parliament oppose the accord.

One is calling for Trimble's resignation.

Opponents to the accord argue that the release of prisoners is immoral and that putting Sinn Féin in government sends the message that violence pays. They also object to the fact that Sinn Féin and the IRA have not apologized for the killings they carried out during the past 30 years of violence.

"The Bible says it is the responsibility of the state to protect individuals and to use the sword to deal with lawbreakers," the Rev. Paisley said. "There is no forgiveness in the Bible without repentance."

The "yes" campaigners stand before large crowds of working-class men in baseball caps and gold earrings, and white-haired

women in bifocals and rubber-soled shoes, arguing through clouds of cigarette smoke for a new way of thinking.

They say that the days of armed struggle are ending, that a prisoner release is an inevitable part of conflict resolution and that the Catholics have a right to aspire to unity with the Irish Republic so long as they pursue that goal democratically.

"By recognizing [Sinn Féin leader] Gerry Adams, I am not a weaker man, I am a stronger man," Ervine told his audience at the Salvation Army hall. "He'll be a minority in a majority Unionist government. He becomes a servant of the people of Northern Ireland. I know it's hard to imagine, but it's not harder than to imagine me as a servant of Catholics."

This view is as revolutionary in Belfast now as the idea of a cease-fire was five years ago, but Ervine promised it would seem perfectly ordinary five years hence. Northern Ireland will have its integrated assembly, he predicted, and peace will bring economic recovery to the province.

Average Protestants are skeptical. The prevailing feeling even among supporters is not that this is such a wonderful agreement but that it is the best they are likely to get - and their only shot for ending the violence.

(Los Angeles Times)

AGENDA

Continued from Page 1

What will be the nature of relations between Israel and the PA if a permanent settlement cannot be reached? How will the US react if Arafat unilaterally declares an independent Palestinian state? What more does Israel have to do for the US to declare that it has done enough to promote the peace process and place responsibility for its failure on Arab shoulders? When will America announce that Arafat is doing enough in his war against Hamas?

Sharansky was also present at the discussion held in Netanyahu's hotel on Sunday. It centered mainly on the dynamics of the peace process, on the package which will ensure that progress is made while security interests are maintained.

Sharansky focused on the demand to abrogate the Palestinian National Covenant. Netanyahu once again criticized Hillary Clinton's remarks in support of a Palestinian state. Ross made it clear that it is high time that the Israelis held a direct dialogue with the enemy and stop arguing among themselves about issues which the Palestinians cannot possibly digest.

More than anything, however, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's spirit hovered over the meeting: "What will he support, what will he object to: on

what issues will he agree to compromise, and when will he rebel?" Washington is concerned that by the time the Israelis decide to reach a reasonable agreement, there will no longer be a Palestinian partner.

The main problem, however, is the loss of faith. Netanyahu doesn't believe a word Arafat says - with the exception of his speeches praising the martyrs and Palestinian freedom fighters.

Arafat doesn't believe a word of Netanyahu's - with the exception of his comments on his commitment to the settlers.

The Israelis are concerned that the democratic administration tends to favor the Palestinians; the Palestinians are convinced that the Jews who surround Clinton have conspired to harm their interests.

If each side could just penetrate the mind of its opponent and know what it is really thinking.

Inside Clinton's head

The Washington Hilton where Netanyahu and Sharansky stayed for the annual AIPAC convention, became the site of a pilgrimage for all Israel's friends in the administration and on Capitol Hill.

Besides Vice President Al Gore and other administration leaders, the convention was attended by 67 senators and 70 congressmen. There is no other organization in Washington which can seat a team like this at one event. What's more - the meal is kosher.

Anyone who has not personally experienced the event cannot fully

understand what the center of Jewish power is and how it has become such an important international political influence, not only for Israel, the US, and the Middle East, but also for many European, Asian, and Latin American countries, who who the strong pro-Israel lobby.

At a convention of this kind, it is only natural that you do not necessarily hear what the administration wants to say, but what the Jewish community likes hearing.

Washington is not known for its naivete. It has become renowned as the capital of global intrigue. The Capitol Steps satirical group's show ends with a call to the audience: "What's wrong - were you surprised that we didn't tell the truth. Do people tell the truth in this town?"

Sometimes they do. Around Israel's Independence Day, a fund-raising event was held at a private Washington home. The event was aimed to establish a fund in memory of David Ifshin, who died two years ago of cancer at a relatively young age.

Ifshin, the former counsel for AIPAC and a confirmed lover of Israel, was a personal friend of Bill Clinton's. The host, Bob Shram, together with a group of friends, thought that if Ifshin had been asked how he wanted to be remembered, he would have suggested setting up a fund which would bring American public officials to Israel. And this is what

they did.

The house was filled with friends of Israel from across the Washington political spectrum. Suddenly a group of secret service agents knocked on the door, asked to examine the premises, and informed the host that Clinton was on his way.

Despite the difficult personal period which the president is undergoing, he shed himself of any vestiges of formality and rank. Two acquaintances of mine grabbed him for a relaxed discussion of the Middle East, the peace process, and Israel.

This was on the same day that he delivered his famous speech on the occasion of Israel's 50th Independence Day, a speech in which he mentioned the heroes of the peace process, and surprisingly named Yoni Netanyahu without referring to his brother, the prime minister, even once.

My friends were amazed at Clinton's familiarity with each and every detail of the negotiations and the complex political situation in Israel.

"I believe that Netanyahu is right in principle that discussion should now focus on the permanent settlement. We can't keep hopping between the never-ending arguments about redeployment and interim withdrawals, with the trust between the sides rapidly disappearing," he said, if my colleagues remember correctly without taking precise notes.

"Please don't misunderstand me. I appreciate Bibi's difficulties," he

continued. "I understand his problems with the NRP. I understand his problem with the settlers. I'm a politician. I'm an expert on the demands being made by Shas and Yisrael Ba'aliya."

"It's hardly surprising that the immigrants' party is right wing. Immigrants tend to have a stronger connection with the land than others. It was the same in America."

Yigal Amir will not change history

The conversation was all the more fascinating because of its detail. Clinton's eyes suddenly became moist and he began to speak with considerable emotion: "You know, whenever I discuss Israel, I am reminded of Yitzhak Rabin. Not a day goes by without me recalling him one way or another. I keep the tie which I loaned him during his last visit in my private apartment at the White House. You may remember that he arrived at the State Department reception without a tie..."

"Beside the tie, I have placed the kippa which I wore at his funeral on Mt. Herzl. I stand in that corner of the room every day and think about him. It guides me."

"In most cases, politically motivated assassinations did not change the course of history. President Lincoln's successor followed in his footsteps. So did president Johnson after Kennedy was assassinated. And the same can almost be said of Mubarak, following Sadat's assassination. I

feel compelled to prevent Yigal Amir from damaging Yitzhak Rabin's heritage."

Such words were not heard in the speeches at the AIPAC convention.

Only Sharansky, who is still perceived as a Jewish hero in America, made a serious attempt at examining the success of the Jewish state in this generation of revival, the hopes which the future holds, the real advantage, the quality of its people. The speeches at the convention are usually full of slogans.

Netanyahu knew how to pluck all the strings which make a Jewish audience quiver. So did Al Gore who, just as at the Jubilee Bells ceremony, was flowing with remarks in Hebrew, addressed the same sentiments:

"Do you think the Israelis were interested in the peace process when I visited Jerusalem three weeks ago for the jubilee celebrations? Not at all. They were only interested in the Batsheva troupe's dance. Even a belly dancer could not excite the Israeli audience," he commented.

Peace and the Left
Next week, after the AIPAC confetti has settled, together with the new scandal aroused in Israel by *The New Yorker's* story about Netanyahu, there will be renewed efforts to move the peace process forward. Ross will not make another trip to Israel. He believes that only a direct channel between Israel and the

Palestinians will remove some of the lack of faith between them. He will conduct the contacts by telephone.

At the AIPAC convention there were complaints about excessive activity against the government by the left wing. It complicates things, just as in the past when members of the Likud acted against the Labor government in Congress.

At the moment it is not really being felt, but how can there be continued objections to establishing a Palestinian state and disagreement with the president's wife, when former prime minister Shimon Peres lends his support to a declaration of Palestinian independence in Washington, of all places.

On the day on which the convention was opened, Labor MK Yossi Beilin published a full-page advertisement calling upon the lobbyists to join the efforts for promoting the peace process.

If the Americans were capable of enlisting the Israeli Left for promoting such efforts, they would ask them to join the efforts at attempting to reduce Palestinian expectations rather than the reverse.

If they could persuade Sharon and Peres to join Netanyahu and Sharansky's table, they might just manage to sit them down together with Arafat, face-to-face without any intermediaries, and help Clinton prevent Yigal Amir from changing the course of history.

1 million anti-Suharto protesters take to streets

By AMY CHEW

JAKARTA (Reuters) - The Indonesian military put on a massive show of force yesterday to keep protests against President Suharto in the capital confined to a festival-like student occupation of parliament.

But elsewhere in the country, more than one million people turned out to demand Suharto's immediate resignation and the president's own political party called on him to go now.

Indonesian students yesterday rejected President Suharto's promise of reforms and vowed to continue occupying parliament until he resigns.

"We will not leave until Suharto quits and we want him to quit now," said Rama Pratama, president of the University of Indonesia's student senate.

After a speech on Tuesday promising electoral reform and that he would resign after he saw the nation through its crisis, Suharto again went into virtual seclusion.

Dates flew back and forth about when the 76-year-old Suharto would step down and rumors swirled of secret meetings that could see him go by Friday, by next month, by the end of the year, or not until his term ends in 2003.

The only clear winner at the end of a day when major protests in Jakarta had been feared was Armed Forces chief General Wiranto, whose skillful crackdown on the capital channelled all opposition into the grounds of parliament which students had occupied since Tuesday.

A military spokesman said half of the 80,000 troops stationed in the Jakarta area were thrown into an operation that blocked off all main intersections with tanks and barbed wire but allowed a route to parliament.

Although the crackdown paralyzed a city meant to be at work, its effectiveness in heading off possible violence cheered financial markets where the rupiah and stock market both rose.

Wiranto's job was made easier when top Muslim leader Amien Rais, who had vowed to put one million followers on to the streets, abruptly cancelled his rally.

Rais said a general had told him the army did not care if Indonesia had its own Tiananmen Square, a reference to the massacre of students in the Chinese capital in 1989 which snuffed out a pro-democracy movement.

"I was shocked by the army's determination," Rais said in explaining why he called off his rally.

At nightfall, with the crisis for the moment over, most road blocks were pulled down, allowing vehicles and people back on to main streets.

Student leaders also cancelled a planned march from parliament to the presidential palace.

Instead they remained on the grounds, and even on the roof of parliament playing guitars, sharing food and water and welcoming new arrivals.

Troops allowed Rais and some of his followers into the grounds as well as other students, swelling the numbers to nearly 20,000.

With Thursday a public holiday, Friday a working day interrupted by prayers in Muslim Indonesia and then the weekend, the military's strategy was clearly to out wait the students in parliament, hoping most would tire of their protests and leave before they became a serious challenge.

The country's biggest protest was in the ancient capital of Yogyakarta where nearly 500,000 people, including the area's traditional ruler, gathered to demand Suharto's immediate resignation.

There were also sizeable protests in the cities of Solo, Surabaya, Medan and Bandung.

Back in the capital, the parliamentary faction of Indonesia's ruling Golkar party called on Suharto and Vice President Jusuf Habibie to resign.

Golkar faction leader Irsyad Sudiro told a news conference it wanted a special session of the constitutional body that elects the president, the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR), at which Suharto should voluntarily quit.

Leaders of the students said House of Representatives Speaker Harmoko and leaders of its four factions agreed to call on Monday for the special session if Suharto



Students occupy the lobby of the Indonesian Parliament House yesterday in Jakarta during a two-day protest against President Suharto. Thousands of demonstrators packed the grounds of parliament and then made their way into the government house. (AP)

did not quit by tomorrow.

"If he does not stand down by Friday the call will be made on Monday for a special session of the MPR," student protests council spokesman Sarwini said after meeting Harmoko and the faction leaders.

"We will stay here in parliament until Harmoko fulfills his promise," Sarwini said.

Suharto was re-elected to a seventh five-year term in March by the MPR, the only body to which he is

accountable.

It was the latest twist in disparate efforts to remove the president from office quickly, rather than wait for an electoral reform process Suharto has set in motion.

Meanwhile, a US Marine amphibious force led by a helicopter carrier is being diverted toward Indonesia in case a military evacuation of Americans is needed from Jakarta in the coming days, the commander of the Marine Corps said on Wednesday.

Gen. Charles Krulak said the Navy helicopter carrier *Belleau Wood* and two support ships carrying some 2,000 Marines would be stationed north of Jakarta over the next four or five days in case civil unrest in Indonesia's capital again turned violent.

On Tuesday, in a historic televised broadcast, Suharto set out the outline for reforms that would culminate in his departure from office after 32 years. He gave no time frame and students dismissed

his words as "lies." Rama said the students would make the Parliament complex their fighting ground.

"The Parliament is the people's institution. We want to maximize this building and fight for reforms here," said Rama.

"We are also here to give courage to the Parliament members. To date, they have only been making symbolic statements. There is nothing concrete," he said.

The students also said they had

huge support from the public that would enable them to occupy the legislative building for a long time.

Support for the students has come from all walks of life - hospitals, universities, non-profit organizations and businessmen.

Dozens of ambulances were parked inside the Parliament grounds on Wednesday. A medical officer said several hospitals in the city were on 24-hour standby for the students both at parliament and in the hospitals.

After 17-month ordeal

2 British nurses freed from Saudi jail

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) - A British nurse who had faced beheading for murder was freed yesterday with her accomplice, also a British nurse, after King Fahd commuted their sentences.

"The nurses have been released," their lawyer, Salah Hejailan, said. "They are with the British consul. They will be flying out later tonight."

Deborah Parry, 39, and Lucille McLauchlan, 32, had been detained at the Dammam Central Prison since their arrest in 1996.

A Saudi court in August 1997 convicted Parry of fatally stabbing Yvonne Gilford, an Australian nurse, and sentenced her to death. The court convicted McLauchlan of being an accessory and sentenced her to eight years in prison and 500 lashes.

Parry escaped beheading when Gilford's brother, Frank, waived his right under Islamic law to demand the death penalty in exchange

for money. McLauchlan's lashing has not been carried out.

Fahd commuted their sentences to time served and ordered them released in response to a petition from the women's families. Saudi Ambassador to Britain Ghazi Algosabi had announced Tuesday.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who had appealed to Fahd about the nurses, called it "a generous humanitarian act."

The Gilford family in the mid-north South Australian town of Jamestown was clearly angered.

"They have got off light," said Frank Gilford's wife, Laurel. "I hope they rot in hell. It's just incredible, but Yvonne's gone, brutally murdered, and they will have to live with that for the rest of their lives."

Frank Gilford's lawyer demanded the immediate release of the money that Gilford had accepted for waiving the death penalty.

Gilford is expected to receive \$1.2 million, of which he will keep 500,000 and give the rest to a charity.

But Hejailan said he will not pay Gilford until he recognizes the money as "blood money" and not financial compensation. The word "compensation" implies the nurses are guilty, but "blood money" means it's a conciliatory settlement, he said.

The families of the two nurses have struck six-figure deals with the British press to sell their story, their London publicist Max Clifford said.

The nurses also plan to publish a diary of the sexual abuse and mistreatment they claim to have suffered in the hands of their jailers.

But one of the nurses might be facing more time in court. A British prosecutor said yesterday that, on her return to Britain, McLauchlan might have to face theft charges pending since 1996.

By ALASTAIR MACDONALD

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian Communists said yesterday they had rallied enough support in the State Duma to demand President Boris Yeltsin's impeachment amid growing protests by unpaid coal miners.

Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov told a news conference more than 150 deputies in the lower house of parliament had signed a petition to impeach Yeltsin, the minimum needed to start lengthy proceedings.

"As of now, 177 deputies have signed this document," he said. The deputies were responding to a call from his party and its Duma allies.

Earlier yesterday, Zyuganov presented to the Duma a 12-page list of charges against Yeltsin, which included the ruining of the Soviet Union in 1991 and violent dissolution of Russia's Soviet-style parliament in 1993.

The problems in the coal industry were not spelled out in the Communist charges.

"We call on all parties to support the miners, teachers and doctors who believe the chief culprit is the president of Russia and are demanding his removal from power," he told the Duma as thousands of angry workers severed rail links across the country.

Interfax news agency quoted Kremlin spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky as saying Yeltsin would react calmly to the impeachment attempt.

The Duma's Communist speaker, Gennady Seleznyov, conceded, that impeachment under a constitution drawn up by Yeltsin was in any case "a very lengthy process and very difficult."

Communists seek Yeltsin's impeachment

In fact, it is all but impossible, and attempts to impeach Yeltsin have made little progress, although a rebellious mood yesterday in the upper house, which has generally backed Yeltsin, could change some of the arithmetic this time.

The regional leaders who make up the Federation Council upper house passed a Communist-backed land code yesterday in defiance of the Kremlin's wishes and also voted overwhelmingly to overturn Yeltsin's veto on four other bills.

The Russian constitution, approved by referendum shortly after Yeltsin crushed an armed uprising by the Duma's Soviet-era predecessor in 1993, sets out a complex impeachment procedure.

Seleznyov said the deputies were in a resolute mood after Yeltsin used his legal muscle to force them to endorse his new prime minister, Sergei Kiriyenko, last month. Only a threat of dissolution persuaded deputies to approve him. To impeach the pres-

ident, one-third of the Duma's 450 members must sign an indictment accusing the president of treason or other serious crime. A simple majority of the Duma must then vote to set up a committee to investigate.

Communists and their allies - the People's Power group and the Agrarian group - control 211 seats in the Duma.

If the committee recommends impeachment, two-thirds of the Duma must vote in secret for the motion for it to progress to the Supreme Court, whose judges have mostly been nominated under Yeltsin, and, to check procedures, to the Constitutional Court.

Once the Duma has backed impeachment, the president loses his right to dissolve the chamber.

If the judges approve the accusation, it goes to the 189-seat Federation Council and the president is removed from office if 126 members vote for it. If the senators fail to address the issue in three months, it lapses.

Castro: I'm no Suharto

By KAREN MATUSIC

GENEVA (Reuters) - Cuba's Fidel Castro said yesterday there was no chance his 39-year communist rule would come to an end through the type of protests which are threatening to bring down Indonesia's President Suharto.

Castro told a packed news conference that he was not like Suharto, who has been in power for 32 years "because he has wanted to maintain power." He added: "I am in charge because (the Cuban people) want me to stay there." "There will not be a violent revolution in Cuba. We learned our lessons from the first day of our revolution," Castro said, recalling the day in 1959 he and his comrades toppled right-wing dictator

Fulgencio Batista.

The 71-year-old Castro said he "shared power" with the 36 million Cuban people and that his "work is to persuade the masses".

"We will have a smooth transition in Cuba because unfortunately the years pass," he said. But he did not say who might replace him.

Castro said he is against armed revolutions today even though he sympathizes with the Zapatista rebels fighting for Indian rights in southern Mexico.

"Today, I would not recommend the armed struggle. There are other ways to stage a revolution. History shows we were right in Cuba but now is not the time to fight against an army," he said.

Environmentalists were able to fight their cause through the media, he declared. "The masses are going to play the decisive role. Ideas are going to change the world, not arms." Castro was speaking on the seventh day of a visit to Geneva.

At high-level meetings at the World Health Organization and World Trade Organization (WTO), he crossed paths, but never met, with US President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary.

His two-hour press conference gave Castro another opportunity to assail the policies of the United States and its nearly four decade-old trade ban on Cuba.

He accused Washington of making several attempts on his life and again railed against the Helms-Burton law which pun-

ishes non-US companies for investing in Cuban property that was taken over by the state after 1959.

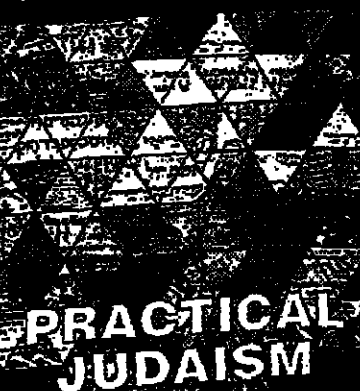
Castro said he was not happy with a US-European Union accord on Monday which laid down a complicated formula which would avert such sanctions against European firms.

He said the agreement discriminated against non-European companies who were not covered by the big powers' deal.

Helms-Burton was unfair because investors in property nationalized in other countries are not subject to US sanctions.

"This law is discriminatory. If they started this for every country, they would have to look at all the property that was nationalized," he said.

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Central Asian carpets lose their magic

Peace and synthetic fibers are killing the hand-made carpet business

By VANORA BENNETT

DERBENT, Russia - Under the fortress walls, the merchants of this honey-colored stone city on the western shore of the Caspian Sea, at the crossroads of three empires, are doing what their ancestors have done for 800 years - laying out hand-woven carpets for sale.

During centuries of conflict under Persian, Turkish and Russian empires, rug salesmen here traditionally have done lucrative business by buying family carpets from refugees on the run from warfare across the Caucasus Mountains and along the shores of the Caspian.

No more.

Something disastrous has started to happen to the region's hand-made carpet trade in the last two years. Peace keeps breaking out. "Look at it now," says weebegone trader Magomedov, forlornly gesturing around. Just a dozen carpets are pinned up outside the north side of the long defensive wall that

Derbent's one-time Persian masters built in the 6th century. A half dozen men, all as small and hunched in their flapping black clothes as Magomedov, all with the same mournful expression, are waiting for buyers.

"There's almost nothing left of our trade," Magomedov says. "Modern life is killing off the hand-made carpet business."

The region's carpet-making legacy from the great carpet cultures of Persia and Turkey was institutionalized under Soviet rule. Factories mass-produced carpets with approximately traditional designs, although village women went on weaving their own - and also continued the practice, frowned on by Communist Party bosses, of giving dowries of carpets at marriage. The huge Derbent market spread across town every weekend.

But the bonanza years for carpet dealers were right after the Soviet Union collapsed. The lands around Russia's southern border, a tinderbox of Christian and

Moslem ethnic groups with long memories for old feuds, went up in flames.

In the five years after the 1991 Soviet collapse, there were conflicts between Armenians and Azerbaijanis, Georgians and Abkhazians, separatists, and Russians and Chechen separatists. In the early 1990s, more than 1 million people fled shattered villages and towns, taking with them only their bedding and carpets.

With no money and no homes, the dispossessed were desperate to sell even such treasured symbols of stability and collective history as the carpets to buy food.

But now stability is returning to the region. The wars have stopped, or have been suspended. The refugees have sold their rugs, and many have found new homes and jobs; so have many of the traders from those days.

The only carpets being made by hand and sold in Derbent are those of women here in the multiethnic republic of Dagestan. But this domestic weaving was never intended as a money-making business

and is done more for private, family purposes.

Magomedov's wife, Asli, wrapped in scarf and enveloping clothes, is one of the weavers. She has just dismantled the huge loom that stood all winter in front of the family television set. She, her 22-year-old daughter, Zulekha, and her two 20-year-old daughters-in-law, Gyllhara and Vilayad, worked for six months on the huge blue-and-red oblong carpet that now lies on the floor. She's planning to start weaving again in the fall.

The floors of the Magomedovs' home - four stone buildings around a vine-shrouded courtyard, where an old woman bakes flat loaves in a clay oven - are covered in layer upon layer of rugs, old and new.

Some of the Magomedovs' carpets are dowry offerings from the family's two new daughters-in-law. A betrothed woman's family still must provide at least one big carpet, a flat-weave rug, a runner and a half dozen cushions. Her mother and sisters can help her

weave them, but the designs should be her own.

According to the legends of the south, the first question a village matchmaker would ask a potential bride was: "How well can you weave?"

Traditional Caucasus carpets differ in design from region to region, village to village. They include both Persian motifs - intricate floral patterns - and wider, brighter, coarser Turkish-influenced designs, with jagged flame-like shapes inspired by the region's plentiful supplies of oil and gas and its long-vanished religion of fire worship.

But some of the modern carpets, cushions, runners and wall hangings that decorate houses here have designs that draw as much from Western pop culture as Eastern tradition. Snoopy and Snow Whites crop up, along with compositions of pink-faced children and baskets of puppies.

Asli, who was laid off from her job at the near-bankrupt Soviet-era carpet factory a few years ago, loves weaving. She collects tem-

plates - patterns drawn with tiny crosses on squared paper - just as some Western women collect knitting patterns. She studies them in her free moments, contemplating her next adventure in quiet creativity.

But, she complains, her work doesn't bring in much money. The most she can expect her husband to get for this winter's rug, measuring 6 feet by 10, is \$600.

"Four of us worked on it for six months," she laments. "And that means we only earned \$25 a month each. A pittance."

The worst blow of all to the trade is the flippancy with which post-Soviet Dagestanis have begun to treat their traditions.

Although it's still considered crucial to transfer carpets from family to family at marriage, her husband says, it's no longer a matter of pride to give the most beautiful and costly weaving possible.

And Russia's opening of its borders means that there's now new competition in the rug business from an unexpected quarter: the

West.

Inside Derbent's city walls, just yards away from the deserted hand-made carpet market, an altogether more flourishing trade is now going on in cheap Belgian or Belarusian carpets made with synthetic fibers.

These crackling, brownish rugs, with large swirly patterns, stand rolled up against walls or are displayed on clotheslines or cars.

Surly traders with none of the traditional carpet salesman's patter say they buy them from four or five big warehouses in Moscow and bring them down to the south for sale. They cost only one-fifth as much as hand-woven rugs.

"So what do people do before a wedding?" Magomedov asks with a mixture of indignation and resignation. "They know they've got to give carpets. But they couldn't care less what kind. So they get the cheapest possible Belgian thing and palm it off on their new family. For people like that, respect for tradition is becoming no more than a formality."

(Los Angeles Times)

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The testing ground

SPAIN'S CAUSE WAS MINE:
A Memoir of an American Medic
in the Spanish Civil War. By
Henry Rubin. Southern Illinois
University Press. 161 pp. No price
stated.

By Yosef Ya'akov

It was a genuine and resounding call to arms. The purpose was obviously not to get involved in the domestic politics of a relatively peripheral European country. The crisis in Spain was widely perceived as the opening volley in a world conflict, whose preliminary rumblings of thunder were already being emitted, as Western appeasement whetted the appetites of the Nazis and Fascists, and the USSR strove to block the perceived armageddon. The Jewish and liberal youth of the West 60 years ago were gripped by idealism or ideological identification impelling them to support the Loyalist cause in Spain against the Fascist insurgent rebel army. It was, in fact, the cause of most of us. In the US, college students and labor unions rallied to enlist as did members of the Young Communist League, of which the author, Henry Rubin, a pre-med Jewish student at UCLA in Los Angeles, was a member.

The Great Depression was in full swing and there was raging isolationism and macro-provincialism. National foreign policy was focused on Japan. For the volunteers in a "civil" war on the other side of the world, conviction mixed with glamour. The FBI worked to ban their travel to Europe, but 3,300 American men and women joined the International Brigades, serving in the Lincoln and Washington Battalions. Seventeen percent of them lost their lives in that "pilot" campaign of World War II. Other volunteers flowed to Spain from more than 50 countries. Non-intervention was the slogan of the day among Western governments, but had no effect on the Nazis, Italian Fascists or the USSR. They, too, impressed "volunteers" to serve in the Spanish war.

Rubin served briefly in an infantry combat unit, then was attached to frontline hospitals as a medic and blood-transfusionist. He survived the war despite wounds and disease, and subsequently served as an officer in the US Army Medical Corps in World War II. One-third of the American volunteers were Jews, and they were all later treated as Communists by the US Government.

The showdown in Spain between the pro-Franco Catholic Church and the liberal regime of Juan Negrin, was reflected in the sentiments of Catholics in the US and Europe; the Spanish Loyalist cause was, therefore, by no means a universal concern in the West.



International Brigade volunteers in the Spanish Civil War

Rubin soul-searched, asking himself how much of his decision to enlist was a feeling of moral responsibility to society, and how much was because he was Jewish. The news from Spain was front-page, but he and his friends were not really suffering. He wanted to be both a doctor and a writer, but going to war seemed to him a step into manhood. The romance and heroism portrayed by Hemingway touched his soul. On and off he attended meetings of the campus Zionist Club, but the overpowering attraction was the political draw of the radical students' union. He was penniless and his family had undergone difficult times economically, so he saw himself as an underdog and sympathized with the Spanish Republic.

He encountered no overt prejudice or discrimination at school, but Jews were not elected to class offices; there was a sense of "outsideness." The news of what was happening to Jews in Germany also aroused him, for his father's family had fled antisemitism in Russia.

The Jewish volunteers for Spain had a high percentage of medical personnel, including nurses. Rubin says that, for most of them, religion was not a primary motivation; in fact many were atheists or agnostics. He writes that going to Spain seemed a way to strike at Hitler and Mussolini and their supporters in the US. He knew almost nothing about Spain, beyond the historical fact of the Inquisition

and the great intolerance of the Catholic Church toward Jews.

In France, the liberal Jewish premier, Leon Blum, tried to help the Spanish Republic, but was rebuffed by the reactionary regime in Britain while, in the US, despite the government's preaching of non-intervention, large quantities of oil were shipped to the Spanish insurgents, as well as thousands of American vehicles to them by way of Germany. The USSR was openly sending war material to Madrid, where the front lines were a mere few hundreds of meters from the electric tram lines. The Germans and Italians were sending arms and troops by ship, and their submarines were torpedoing Western and Soviet merchant vessels in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic off the Portuguese coast.

As Rubin and some comrades walked at night across the Pyrenees from France, they encountered Non-Intervention patrols of the League of Nations trying to stop Western volunteers from entering Spain. On arrival, he was surprised to find that the Republic was not a unified nation against the Franco forces. The Catalan separatist movement continued its struggle for independence. Anarchists were also active and fought the notion of a central government.

But the Spanish people on the streets saluted and warmly greeted the foreign volunteers. Rubin says "it was all very festive" not like men marching grimly to war. Most

of the armed forces sided with Franco and the Republic was left without a trained military leadership. The populace appeared to be bitterly anti-clerical, and churches were burned and priests beaten and killed. The church appeared to be "fossilized." Lawlessness prevailed.

The German Army regarded Spain as a wonderful training opportunity, while the Italians shipped whole battalions and divisions intact from Ethiopia directly to Spain. The archives of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, incidentally, are at Brandeis University in the US. There was a British and Canadian brigade, and Spain was the original sphere of activity of the famous Canadian physician, Norman Bethune, who later became canonized as a saint by the Chinese Communists whose army he joined during the civil war there.

The Russian Maxim machine-guns issued to the volunteers had been obsolete in World War I, and ammunition was pitifully scarce. Rubin's section leader and the commander of the Lincoln Battalion were Blacks, "the first Blacks in American history to command White soldiers." As a Young Communist League member and a university student, Rubin was at one point made political commissar of a machine-gun company, whose men joked about him being a "comic star." The commissars were morale officers and political activists.

Food and other necessities were in short supply, and the arid, rocky countryside seemed to the Western volunteers to be one huge series of olive groves. Slowly, inexorably, the Republican forces were pushed north to Barcelona, to which Rubin was sent by his commanding doctor to buy some medical equipment to set up a field clinical laboratory. His main duties in the medical corps were to save the wounded, not kill the enemy. He sensed that the Nazi bombers were making the field hospitals their choice targets, despite the red crosses visible on their roofs. One day, Pablo Casals played Brahms for the troops in an al fresco solo recital.

Out of the blue, just as Rubin had completed 17 months of service in Spain, the Republican president Negrin ordered the withdrawal of the International Brigades of volunteers, some of whom had adopted Spanish citizenship and married Spanish women. Their number had reached 60,000 at its height. The goodbye was emotional, with a sad retreat to France and a Franco victory looming. Rubin still wonders, 60 years later, whether those who fell had died in vain. The volunteers were sent to Cherbourg from where they sailed to the US. When they landed in New York, Rubin writes, "grim-faced FBI agents looked us over.... We were premature antifascists." Meanwhile, the Vatican was thanking Franco for achieving "a Christian victory."

Hunt for E.T.

OTHER WORLDS: THE SEARCH FOR LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE by Michael D. Lemonick. Simon & Schuster, 352 pp. \$25.

By John R. Alden

Are we alone in the universe? As of now, the answer is unequivocal. There are no aliens orbiting the earth or living among us. E.T. has not phoned in from some other solar system. There is no evidence that any sort of life exists anywhere but on our Earth.

Yet this answer comes with a crucial qualification: We've never actually seen any of the places outside our solar system where life might be found. As Michael Lemonick, a science writer at *Time* magazine, explains in his lucid and intriguing survey of ongoing work on this issue, there are good reasons to believe that other technologically advanced civilizations exist elsewhere in the universe.

The key to this claim lies in something called the "Drake Equation." Named after the radio astronomer who devised it, this equation is actually simpler than the average tax return. It says that "n," the number of technologically advanced civilizations in the universe, is equal to the number of hospitable planets times the proportion of those planets where life arose times the proportion where civilization arose times the proportion of worlds where such civilizations currently survive. Because we exist, we know that "n" is at least one. *Other Worlds* describes what scientists are doing to push "n" from one to two.

The only certain way to change that number is to discover a non-terrestrial civilization. At present, Lemonick makes clear, the hopes for doing so are slim. There are no telescopes capable of sighting a planet – even a planet as large as Jupiter – orbiting even the nearest neighboring star. The SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Institute has a four-meter-plus diameter radio telescope listening for transmissions from nearby stars. But even though that telescope could "pick up" a cellular phone operating on Pluto it is probably not powerful enough to hear something like a television signal from a star eight to 10 light years away.

Because of such limitations, most of the research that *Other Worlds* describes is aimed at improving estimated values for one or another term in the Drake Equation. Specifically, this means building better instruments, hunting for evidence of planets orbiting other stars, and looking for signs of life on other worlds in our own solar system.

All three lines of investigation, Lemonick reports, are producing results. Lemonick's account of these works in progress is more a recitation of possibilities than a critical discussion of results. But the advances he describes make it seem likely that we will someday find life in another solar system. And that, many scientifically inclined readers would agree, could be the greatest discovery mankind has ever made.

Alden, an archaeologist, specializes in the evolution of complex societies.

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The author is Geoff Ryman, and 253 is the name of his Internet site and his new novel.

This novel takes place in London on a Bakerloo Line underground train traveling from the Embankment to the Elephant and Castle.

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Also, each individual and his inner thoughts are succinctly described in exactly 253 words.

Visitors to the site (www.ryman-novel.com) can click on and read the novel in any order, or follow up the links between the passengers and events as the train hurtles to its final destination.

For readers who are not hooked up to the web, Ryman's novel will soon be published in traditional book form by Flamingo under the title 253, subtitled *Tube Theatre. Internet*.

BESPECTACLED, thin-faced and gray-bearded, Elmore Leonard is 73 and an overnight success after 30-odd years of novel writing. He had written 25 books – from pulp Westerns to books – before the film *Get Shorty* made his name a household word.

His novel *Rum Punch* is now hitting the silver screen under the title *Jackie Brown*. In the title *Jackie Brown*, Quentin Tarantino's latest film, Leonard's lead character, a Leonard white woman called Jackie Burke, becomes a gritty black woman called Jackie Brown. Leonard, who considers him-

self an entertainer, says that he is particularly interested in characters, and what they say. "I have affection for my characters. I like these people – even the most despicable ones. Plot isn't that important to me – it just sort of comes along."

He's proud of the fact that Martin Amis thinks he's "quite a good writer." [Amis] says that he reads my prose and doesn't see any elbows sticking out. Leonard works hard at his writing and reckons for every page he ends up keeping, four get thrown out.

IN WRITING I find an interlude.... I am someone who was told that I could never aspire to be anything more than a secretary. At 32 years of age I have only just begun.... I have been teaching English literature and writing at one of the prisons on Riker's Island.... I am a 48-year-old woman who is either making a courageous and exciting transition in her life, or someone who has impulsively turned her middle years into a sham-ble.

All of the above testimonials come from women who have turned to writing, who love writing and who belong to the International Women's Writing Guild (IWWG). The IWWG is a non-profit, loose network "for the personal and professional empowerment of women through writing," which is open to all women "regardless of portfolio."

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To learn more, see the Guild's web site <http://www.iwwg.com> with links to other relevant sites, or contact the IWWG representative in Israel, Sarah Lebor. at tel. 02 582 0723 or e-mail: slebor@netvision.net.il.

David Brauner

HARDCOVER Fiction

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2. "N" is for Noose by Sue Grafton. (Woodfin \$25.) Kinsey Millhone pursues the facts behind the sudden, strange death of a cop in a California town.
3. The Long Road Home by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte \$25.95.) A woman who grew up in a fractured family tries to find the courage to confront the past.
4. Black and Blue by Anna Quindlen. (Random House \$23.) After her husband turns violent, a woman flees to Florida with her young son.
5. Message in a Bottle by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner \$20.) After finding a seashore bottle containing an enigmatic letter, a divorced woman encounters love.
6. A Widow for a Year by John Irving. (Random House \$27.95.) These looks at the complex emotional life of a writer and single mother.
7. The Street Lawyer by John Grisham. (Doubleday \$27.95.) A young lawyer comes to terms with himself after discovering his prestigious firm's dirty secrets.
8. A Patchwork Planet by Anne Tyler. (Knopf \$24.) Estranged from his affluent family, a self-destructive, voyeuristic underachiever tries to cope with life and love.
9. Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden. (Knopf \$25.) The life of a young woman in prewar Kyoto.
10. Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier. (Atlantic Monthly \$24.) A wounded Confederate soldier journeys home.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. We Are Our Mothers' Daughters by Debbie Roberts. (Morrow \$19.95.) The television news anchor's personal reflections on women in politics and business and as mothers, wives, sisters and friends.
2. Still Me by Christopher Reeve. (Random House \$25.) The stage and film actor looks back at his life, especially since his crippling accident three years ago.
3. Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday \$19.95.) A sports writer tells of his weekly visit to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
4. Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt. (Scribner \$24.) An Irish-American writer recalls his childhood amid the miseries of Limerick.
5. The Millionaire Next Door by Thomas J. Stanley. Wealthy Americans have seven characteristics in common.
6. Talking to Heaven by James Van Praagh. (Dutton \$22.95.) A "world-famous medium" discusses communication with the other side.
7. Triumph of Justice by Daniel Petrocelli with Peter Knobler. (Crown \$25.95.) The lawyer who represented the Goldmans in the O.J. Simpson civil rights trial explains what it told him about Simpson and the legal system in the US.
8. The Gifts of the Jews by Thomas Cahill. (Talesa/Doubleday \$23.50.) What Western civilization owes an ancient tribe.
9. The Man Who Listens to Horses by Monty Roberts. (Random House \$23.) The memoirs of a professional horse trainer.
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7. Orphans: Butterfly by V.C. Andrews. (Pocket \$3.99.) A troubled orphan is adopted by a couple who hope she will become a ballerina.
8. The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner Vision \$5.99.) A World War II veteran meets an old flame who is about to be married.
9. London by Edward Rutherfurd. (Fawcett \$7.99.) Two thousand years of life in Britain's capital as seen by six families.
10. Secrecy by Belva Plain. (Dell \$7.50.) The horrifying memory of a teenage experience haunts a woman who is a member of a leading family in a New England town.

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1. Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$7.99.) A journalist's account of his ascent on Mt. Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
2. Personal History by Katherine Graham. (Vintage \$15.) The autobiography of the former publisher of *The Washington Post*.
3. Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13.) A celebration of life in the Italian countryside by an American poet.
4. James Cameron's Titanic by Ed W. Marsh. Photographs by Douglas Kirkland. (Harper Perennial \$20.) A lavishly illustrated account of the making of the film.
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6. A Child Called "It" by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications \$9.95.) The autobiography of a man who survived his mother's abuse.
7. The Lost Boy by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications \$10.95.) The author of *A Child Called "It"* recalls life in a series of foster homes.
8. A Night to Remember by Walter Lord. (Bantam \$5.99.) An historian's account of the Titanic disaster.
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2. Don't Sweat the Small Stuff ... and It's All Small Stuff by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$8.95.) How to enjoy life more and contribute to the world we live in.
3. Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover's Soul, compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Hansen, Mary Becker and Carol Kline. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspirational stories.
4. Dr. Atkins New Diet Revolution by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon \$6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. Simple Abundance by Sarah Ban Breathnach. (Warner \$17.95.) Advice for women seeking to improve the way they look at themselves.
2. The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom by Suze Orman. (Crown \$23.) Ways to manage your money now and in the future.
3. Sugar Busters by H. Leighton Steward et al. (Ballantine \$22.) A diet designed for losing weight, increasing energy and combating disease.
4. In the Meantime by Iyania Vanzant. (Simon & Schuster \$23.) Ways to find out what you truly need, particularly "the love that you want."

The New York Times BESTSELLERS

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Freedom of information

Not only are Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi and Meretz MK Dedi Zucker in rare agreement, they are more on target than they may realize: Tuesday's final passage of the Freedom of Information Law marks a "revolution" in the relationship between citizens and government. For all the talk of "present" granted to the public in Israel's 50th year, this largely unheralded legislation may turn out to be among the most significant.

The principle behind the new law is simple: The government's information is public property, and the public has a fundamental right to see it. This principle seems so commonsensical that it should not need stating. In practice, however, it overturns the instincts that flow through the fibers of many bureaucrats – all information is mine, unless I want the public to see it.

When the bill, introduced privately by MKs from a range of parties, led by Zucker, was considered in committee, representatives from several ministries trooped in to praise the law – and to beg to be exempted. The Health Ministry fretted about the effect of releasing statistics on different hospitals, the Education Ministry regarding comparisons of different schools, and so on. Most concerned, of course, were the security services.

In response to the parade of bureaucratic requests for relief, the Justice Ministry tried to insert a clause that would allow any minister to declare that particular information be withheld because it risked harming "an important public interest." Given the potential for a minister deciding that almost anything embarrassing is not in the "public interest," the Knesset committee was right to drop the provision from the final version.

In the end, the Knesset wisely provided broad exemptions to protect national security, privacy, and commercial information. The intelligence services are all exempt, as is information pertaining to internal management, and internal government investigations.

Some of lines between what the public should and should not know are not easy to draw, and will in the end be decided by the courts. As surely as day follows night, government officials will attempt to use the many exemptions to the fullest possible extent, but slowly, precedents to the contrary will be established and attitudes will change.

In the United States, this process has had time to play itself out since the Freedom of Information Act was passed in 1966. In 1974,

US law was further amended by the Privacy Act, which safeguards against an invasion of privacy through the misuse of government records, and provides citizens access to most personal information maintained by government agencies.

Israel has passed similar laws in reverse order, adopting a comparable Privacy Law in 1981, and the Freedom of Information Law now.

Though Israel may be considered late in joining the many countries that have freedom of information laws, we are not the last – Britain is still in the process of developing one. And Israel's does include two aspects that make it stand out among similar legislation around the world – the breadth of its coverage and the special provisions on the environment.

The US Congress, succumbing to temptation that, thankfully, was not even considered by the Knesset, exempted itself from the US Freedom of Information Act. The Israeli law, by contrast, could not be broader. It includes all the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, the state comptroller, local authorities, and government-owned companies. The basic principle applied was that any government body that is subject to examination by the comptroller would also be subject to the new law.

Regarding the environment, the law specifically requires that "information regarding substances that were released into the environment" be open to the public, despite the prohibition on releasing commercial information that could be used by other companies for competitive advantage. The law also allows for "measurements of [environmental] noise, smell, and radiation" to be available to the public, regardless of commercial considerations.

Now that Israel has a world-class freedom of information law, both the government and the public should rise to the challenge of employing it to the fullest. Each government authority is required by the new law to designate personnel who will fulfill information requests. The challenge will be to fulfill this provision not just in letter but in spirit, by streamlining the request process and by making it easier for the public to receive commonly requested information.

Though this spirit should ideally apply to all government work, perhaps Israel's information officers can lead the way in regarding themselves as public servants in the literal sense – whose job it is to serve the public, not defend the bureaucracy behind them from rightfully prying eyes.

05/21/98



A time to act

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

It was a golden moment for Jonathan Pollard when he was visited in his prison cell a week ago by Cabinet secretary Dan Nevech. For over an hour they discussed the implications of Jerusalem finally deciding that he was, after all, a bona fide Israeli intelligence agent. Pollard was reported to be "delighted" by the news.

First, Pollard has the satisfaction of knowing that the "rogue elephant" cover up story concocted over a decade ago by Israeli government leaders was a misbegotten, brazen lie.

The senior ministers of the day, Moshe Arens, Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Shamir, had tossed their star Lakam intelligence operator to the dogs to cover their own hides. Their conduct was nothing less than shameful.

However, hope for an early release for Pollard must be laced with a dose of realism. Everything hinges on the goodwill on the man who sits in the White House, and whether he has the desire or determination to grant Pollard amnesty.

Clinton's intelligence service is determined never to release Pollard. They fear that if he is released, he will be free to divulge their clumsy machinations to cover up their blunders in not detecting the activities of internal traitors like Aldridge Ames, and possibly others.

COMPARISONS are sometimes invidious, and justice varies from country to country. Nevertheless, we refer to the recent decision to release the UK's most notorious spy, Michael Bettaney, after he served 14 years of his 23-year prison sentence.

Unlike Pollard, who gave information to a friendly power, Bettaney offered the Soviet Union, his country's biggest enemy, some of Britain's most crucial secrets. During his trial, it was revealed that the Englishman's sole purpose in spying was financial greed. Due

to his revelations, Britain's MI5 secret service had to be completely reorganized.

Just as in the US, British security chiefs were up in arms about Bettaney's release. But Tony Blair's government, moved by compassion, decided that justice had been served and that the prisoner could go free.

Now let us look at both men a little closer.

Pollard, then employed by US Naval Intelligence, realized that satellite maps of poison gas and other unconventional weapon sites being built by Israel's Arab enemies – including Syria and Iraq – were clearly aimed at the destruction of the Jewish state.

By prior agreement between the two governments the maps were supposed to have been sent to Jerusalem. Then secretary of state Caspar Weinberger had taken it upon himself to prevent this information from reaching Jerusalem.

Pollard became convinced that as a result, the Jews of Israel were facing a possible second Holocaust. He offered to send the plans to Jerusalem. It was an offer which was gratefully accepted. But Rafi Eitan, who was in charge of the operation, insisted that Pollard be paid for his work as he was now their fully pledged agent.

In contrast, Bettaney's sole interest was to fill his pockets with gold. It was said at his trial that he would not have hesitated to disclose names to the Russians which would almost certainly have led to the death of more than one of them.

The dispatch of Middle Eastern war plant maps to Israeli in no way threatened US security. No US agents were ever in jeopardy as a result. No known damage was caused to American interests other

than Weinberger's private agenda.

Pollard has repeatedly expressed remorse for betraying the trust placed in him as a US intelligence officer. Michael Bettaney has never uttered a single word of regret for spying for the Kremlin.

"My life is my own business," was all he had to say after his release.

Above all else, Jonathan Pollard is still in prison whereas Bettaney is free.

Will the decision taken by Israel to recognize Pollard as "their man" help in winning his liberty? Will Netanyahu come right out and ask Clinton next time they meet to free him? And will American Jews exert pressure on the White House to free their co-religionist so unjustly treated by the US judiciary?

Much will depend on whether they come face to face with the myth they have so long cherished and allowed to delude them: that Clinton is a friend of Israel. He is nothing of the kind. His open support of Yasser Arafat, his wife Hillary calling for the establishment of a Palestinian state – which is nothing less than an act of suicide by the Jewish state – his refusal to even accept a letter by American rabbis calling for Pollard's release, are all ominous.

The Jews of America failed to try to save the lives of their European brethren by pressuring president Roosevelt during the closing stages of the Holocaust to bomb the railway line to Auschwitz. Fearful then and fearful now of having their loyalty as Americans questioned, they have turned a blind eye to Pollard's fate during the past decade. They have never demonstrated on his behalf.

Will they now put aside their timidity and make their communal voice heard? Or are they still too deeply embedded in their longstanding fear of saying, doing, even thinking of doing something which might upset the Czar?

The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

To Jordan and back

For personal reasons, I have had to travel to Amman two or three times a month. Despite improvements, a journey supposed to take one hour has taken me an average of five – with my record at four. In addition to the time wasted, travelers have to pay a variety of unnecessary expenses, fees and bus fares.

For Jerusalemites like myself, the trouble begins at the Interior Ministry in East Jerusalem, where one needs to get a permit. Before Oslo, Jerusalemites could pick up a permit from any taxi stand and head for Jordan. Now you need a photo, wait in line for hours and then pay NIS 120 for the permit. The office is closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays.

To get to Jordan you need to travel via the Jordan Valley bridge. Israelis call it the Allenby Bridge, the Jordanians call it King Hussein Bridge and Palestinians call it Al Karamah Crossing Point. Karamah, which refers to the East Bank town that was the scene of fierce Palestinian-Israeli battles in 1968, also means pride.

Pride, is certainly not what you feel at the Jericho *isthraka* (rest point). This stopover was meant to ease the troubles of summer travelers who had to wait for their turn to get to Jordan. But the only reason travelers now have to make this unnecessary stopover is to allow the Jericho municipality make a little money.

On your way in and out of Jordan, you have to stop here, pay an exorbitant price for a bus ticket, and for every item of luggage. On a recent trip, I boarded a bus and sat in the front seat when the driver asked me to move.

"The first four rows are reserved for women," he tells me. "Who made that decision? I ask. 'The Israelis'."

"But I thought we are in Palestinian territory and that the Oslo Agreement stipulated that Palestinians are not supposed to see Israelis at the bridge."

"Well, we still have to cross Israeli military areas in order to reach the terminal."

True enough, when the bus fills up, we drive out of sovereign Palestinian areas through two well-fortified, Israeli military checkpoints.

Soldiers "look" over the bus, check the luggage and, after a short pause, we are allowed through. At the terminal, we Jerusalemites are separated from other Palestinians. We are put together with foreigners and everyone has to pay an additional NIS 107. (I was later told that half goes to the Israelis and the other half to the Palestinian Authority.) I thought the travel tax had been canceled in Israel.

After passport control, we again wait. Almost an hour later, we are allowed to embark another bus, where one pays an extravagant fare for travelers and luggage (NIS 6 for a three-kilometer drive).

ON the Jordanian side, Palestinians from Jerusalem are reunited with the other Palestinians. The Jordanians also take their time. Every traveler goes through a metal detector. The Jordanians are not worried about weapons, they are looking for travelers trying to smuggle their Israeli cellular phones. Israeli mobile phones, which can be used in many parts of Jordan, infringe on Jordanian cell-phone companies rights.

Jordanian security officials are also looking for anyone carrying newspapers, whether they be Arabic, English or Hebrew. The peace process apparently does not include travelers carrying their own newspapers.

The Jordanian terminal is huge. There is a line for women and one for men. When you finish the first window you still have to go through two other windows. Apparently one is for regular passport checks, one for the police, and a third for the *mukhabarat* (intelligence).

The booths are operated by men and all are equipped with computers. But for some reason, every passenger has to be approved by all three computers. It seems centralizing computers is not high on the Jordanian priority list.

The return trip is slightly less cumbersome on the Jordanian side, but much more problematic on the Israeli side. Jerusalemites are again separated when they arrive on the west side of the Jordan. But although they are placed with tourists, their luggage goes through a different conveyor belt and a different metal detector.

The Palestinian metal detector is set very high. Every time I crossed, I couldn't pass through, even though I had removed my wallet, my watch, my belt and all my change. After another long wait and a physical body check, I am allowed to go on.

Another trip to the Jericho stopover, and then a final ride to Jerusalem. My only problem is: What if I decide to commute between Amman and Jerusalem? And worse yet, if I had to travel with my three children.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INDIA'S SECURITY

Sir, – The Jerusalem Post has sought (May 15) to make a "terrible example" of India for its underground nuclear tests on the grounds that such tests are not technically required; that they reflect the wrong priorities for a developing country, are unnecessary for democracies, and because they could have a domino effect. This rush to judgment fails to take account of India's basic perspective.

In recent times, India's security concerns have been exacerbated by the proliferated nuclear environment in its neighborhood. India needed to reassure itself that its nuclear capability remains effective and viable, after decades of self-imposed restraint. Unlike other nuclear capable countries, India neither has, nor seeks, a strategic patron who would act as the "technical enabler" of its testing capacity.

India's defence expenditure stands at about 2.5% of GDP – proportionately among the lowest in the world. The cost of the

nuclear development program in India has been assessed by academic experts at \$70 million per year – not "billions" as suggested in your editorial. Believing, from historical experience, that their underdevelopment, is at least partly a result of inadequate defence against foreign domination, Indians justifiably feel this is money well spent.

As you rightly recognize, India lives in a dangerous neighborhood. Its status as a peaceful and democratic nation has not provided it defense against authoritarian neighbors (one declared and one undeclared nuclear power) who have inflicted four wars on it in the past; nor against a continuing proxy war through state sponsored terrorism from across the borders.

Historical experience has also shown that our democratic status provides no immunity from nuclear blackmail when the interests of nuclear powers are challenged. Hence the need for a self-reliant defence and retention of nuclear capability has complete

consensus in India.

This is not as you suggest, simply a matter of national pride. It is worth noting that even in the last year sub-critical/hydro nuclear tests have been conducted to refine existing nuclear arsenals without any worldwide reaction.

India believes the problem of nuclear proliferation has to be tackled through a global and non-discriminatory process of total nuclear disarmament. The Chemical Weapons Convention exemplifies this comprehensive non-discriminatory approach and India was one of the first countries to sign it.

The tests conducted by India represent no political or technological triumphalism; they are based on a sober assessment of national security in an imperfect world.

AMBASSADOR
RANJAN MATHAI

Embassy of India,
Tel Aviv.

UNFORTUNATE WORDS

Sir, – I wish to take issue with your editorial "Military criticism" (May 18).

Although I disagree with Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amiror's comment on Hebrew-speaking "goyim," he did not criticize the government or army, as Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnai clearly did when he spoke out last weekend.

President Ezer Weizman has

made a number of statements which have angered large portions of Israeli society and for which he (as did Amiror) later apologized. Very few people felt that Weizman should not continue as president because of these comments.

If the defense hierarchy decided to not appoint Amiror to head Military Intelligence only

because of his few unfortunate words, or because he wears a kippa, then I think a great injustice has been done to the citizens of the State of Israel and to its future security.

MAJOR (Res.)
YONATAN BEN-ARJ

Efrat.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On May 21, 1933, The Palestine Post reported that fifteen Arab villagers of Sepphoris had been arrested in connection with the murder of the Nahalal villager Ya'acobi and his small son.

50 years ago: On May 21, 1948, The Palestine Post reported that Arab Legion forces were soundly defeated in the Beit Yisrael

Quarter of Jerusalem. The Legion's four armored vehicles were put out of action and they suffered heavy casualties. Another two Legion armored cars were hit in Sheikh Jarrah and near Damascus Gate. Hagana commando raided a Syrian camp and blew up ammunition dumps, tanks and armored cars. Tel Aviv suffered from more bombing raids.

25 years ago: On May 21, 1973, The Jerusalem Post reported that the Kremlin was considering – at Washington's request and in order to smooth the implementation of the 1972 Soviet-American trade pact – the cases of some 1,000 Jews denied permission to immigrate to Israel.

Alexander Zvielli

05/21/98

Weekender

Death of the kibbutz

Nadav Levitan's final film in his trilogy, 'No Names on the Doors,' dissects kibbutz life and charts its preoccupation with money

By SHERYL KATZ

"Today's kibbutzim are only interested in making money," says film director Nadav Levitan. "American capitalist values have taken the place of socialist values. Kibbutzim even rent out the swimming pool for bar mitzvas. There is no end to it," he asserts.

In making his new movie *No Names on the Doors*, Levitan drew on his personal experiences of growing up on Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk, south of Acre, which he left at the age of 21 and where his mother of 86 still lives.

In the film, Levitan interweaves personal stories to create a tapestry of kibbutz life today. *No Names on the Doors*, based on one of Levitan's short stories, is the third in a trilogy of films about kibbutz life following *An Intimate Story* (1981) and *Stalin's Disciples* (1986).

According to Levitan, "kibbutz life in Israel is finished and the film more than hints at this."

In the film, the kibbutz's governing committee tries to arrange "rooms" (rooms to rent) to make the kibbutz more economically viable. This preoccupation with money, however, comes at the expense of the personal needs of the members, as well as conflicting with the original ideal of the kibbutz as a family. The film opens with the burial of Ariel, a young soldier from the kibbutz who was killed in combat. An example of the alienation of the kibbutz members is the lack of support and sympathy that his mother Adina (played by Chava Alberstein) receives during her period of mourning. She wants to create a memorial for Ariel by leaving his room as is



Dorit Lev Ari and Micha Slakter (the narrator) have a discussion in front of the "two windows" in Nadav Levitan's latest film.

and by displaying his art there. She puts a nameplate bearing the words "Ariel House" outside his door and invites the kibbutz members to visit.

She waits, but nobody comes. The kibbutz committee wants to use Ariel House as a *zimmer*. They also want to re-allocate her late son's bed to Kuba (played by Moscov Alkali), an old man with a heart condition who is single-handedly caring for his mentally and physically disabled son, Israel (Avi Pnini).

LEVITAN is a founder of the original Kibbutz (the Hebrew acronym for Young Israeli Cinema, which is a play on the Hebrew word for "summer"). Kibbutz filmmakers, who began working in the 1960s and '70s, viewed people as complex human beings rather than superhuman heroes or ethnic stereotypes. Levitan's films explore the psychology of people under stress and of society as a whole. Levitan says the film is topical

as it shows the effects of privatization in Israel, in particular on kibbutzim. "The kibbutz was the vanguard of society, so if it starts to change, the whole community of Israel will change."

Not that kibbutzim are unique in their loss of communal values. Levitan says that Western culture is losing its sense of community, and in this respect, the kibbutz in the movie is a microcosm of the outside world. Instead of helping one another, the characters in the film are estranged and at odds with each other.

The idea of a small society representing the world is expressed by the use of windows, as notably done by Italian director Antonioni (albeit with fewer conspicuously slow pans). The story is narrated by Amos, (Micha Slakter) who sits in front of the windows of his house as an observer, commenting on what passes by.

His opening lines of the film set both the tone and the pace for the events to follow: "This is a small

place, one can't avoid the peering eyes of others. I can see them passing occasionally, through my window." On his desk is another window, that of the computer screen. This technique is not new to Levitan. As in *An Intimate Story* and *Stalin's Disciples*, many scenes are shot through windows to emphasize both loneliness and isolation and to symbolize a lack of privacy. "The kibbutz is like an aquarium," says Levitan. "Everyone can see everyone else. That is the ideology of the kibbutz. This is even reflected in the architectural design of the houses."

Although a part of kibbutz life is that nothing is considered private, this becomes ironic with the rise of capitalist-type kibbutzim and with the rise of privatization. The narrator represents Levitan himself, who is also an observer and he says even the cinema screen is a window and the audience are also observing. The title "No Names on the Doors" is derived from the fact that in the heyday of kibbutzim there was

no need for nameplates on doors. explains Levitan. "Everyone knew everybody else. The tension in the film, however, more than hints that this is about to change. That the 'big family feeling' is gone."

"Up until the beginning of the last decade, during my generation and that of my parents, there was a feeling of responsibility between people. Now everybody looks out for themselves," he says. Levitan says it's always a surprise to see who appreciates which particular film. For example, when *Stalin's Disciples* was released, it was not successful; only recently has it become popular with university students.

In *No Names*, as he has done before, Levitan makes a cameo appearance - as a Hitchcock - as Adina's husband. Adina is played by his real-life wife, singer Chava Alberstein, who also starred in *An Intimate Story*. "She has never appeared in any other director's films. She only acts for me," asserts Levitan.

New Link in the café chain

By TRACY FISKE

How can the limited population of the nation's capital sustain a seemingly endless stream of café/bars? The answer is, of course, that it can't. And to the dismay of the many hopeful entrepreneurs who fork out fistfuls of borrowed shekels to bring Jerusalemites yet another hip place to consume beverages and look cool, these establishments spring up and disappear faster than you can say double decaf mocha-chino.

If there is a formula for success in this saturated market segment, then Yehuda and Dudu Aslan, proprietors of the new Link café/bar, have figured it out. So much for the "location, location, location" theory. In what seemed like a risky move, they sold Moment, their trendy, popular café in upscale Rehavia. The new owners have been unable to carry on in their predecessors' tradition, and Moment's once-loyal following can now be found queuing up in the long lines in front of Link, the Aslan brothers' latest enterprise.

"The most important thing for us," says Yehuda, "was to preserve the warm, personal environment that we created at Moment. A big part of the clientele visited us at the new location because they wanted to see what we did here. Once they saw the place, they decided to stay."

The Aslans abandoned their store-front café on Azza for a quiet, tree-lined street just off bustling King George. The building, which used to house Zig Zag café, is a charming old Arab house made of Jerusalem stone. A huge patio, seating twice as many people as the inside, is beautifully landscaped with a towering palm tree, whose fronds fan out to canopy nearly half the tables. Potted and planted trees and flowers border the outdoor section of Link and, as Yehuda puts it, give customers the feeling that they're sitting in a garden. Soft lighting and the quiet din of patrons clinking glasses and conversing add to the feeling of an outdoor dinner party.

The stones that used to send your lawn chairs wobbling at the old Zig Zag have been replaced with a smooth, wooden deck and Armenian tile. Customers will soon be able to order drinks and sit around a full-service outdoor bar. "The inside and the outside are a different atmosphere altogether. We are opening the outside bar for the clients who prefer that scene," Yehuda says.

The inside consists of two intimate rooms with a minimalist decor, the most obvious ornaments being two spider-legged ceiling chandeliers. Artwork, candles and dried peppers hang on cream-colored walls, and an extremely wide selection of alcoholic beverages are shelved behind a wooden bar.

Whiskey seems to be the house specialty, with the beverage list divided into domestics, high quality, single malts and Irish (NIS 12-NIS 120). There is also a diverse range of gins, bourbons, vodkas, tequilas, rums and cognac. The beer selection is a bit more limited with brands such as Corona, Leffe, and the Egyptian Stella in bottles, and Carlsberg and Tuborg on draft for NIS 13 a third. The fact that you can't order a half pint, coupled with the third's rather steep price, is one of my only complaints about Link and one of the reasons that in the café/bar equation, I consider it more of a place to dine than an everyday watering hole for beer drinkers.

The menu is tasty and eclectic. From spicy buffalo wings to meat balls to goose breast, all main dishes are available in half or full portions (NIS 18-NIS 38). Like other area cafés, sandwiches (NIS 24-NIS 28), salads (NIS 25-NIS 28) and a full breakfast (NIS 35) are par for course, as is any kind of coffee you can think of and cakes and fruits for dessert.

While families are not a rarity during the day, the 23 plus "in" crowd that first singled out Moment as the place to be seen, descends on Link at about 10 p.m., usurping control till closing, at 2:00.

The new location allows the Aslan brothers to remain open on Shabbat, which is no small triumph for their clientele.

Link, 3 Ma'alot Street, Jerusalem

Rappers on my mind

Pop star Nimrod Reshef talks about his favorite music

Since the age of ten, pop star Nimrod Reshef has been influenced by rap. The great love affair started when the father of a friend brought him a cassette from London by Grandmaster Flash, one of the first major rap artists. Two years ago Reshef joined the band Shabak Sameach, one of the first rap groups in Israel, and his career took off.

Reshef's father, Poly Reshef, is an actor, currently performing at Habima Theater, so it is no surprise that Reshef is as drawn to acting as he is to the music business.

He appears in *The Flying Classroom* on the Children's Channel and recently performed in the miniseries *Whale on Sheraton Beach*. He is also appearing in a new primetime series *It's Up to Me*.

A short time ago Reshef left Shabak Sameach, and is now working on an album featuring musicians familiar to Shabak Sameach fans.

Reshef talks about his five favorite rappers.

1. Bone Thugs N Harmony
"Every once in a while rap music goes through some sort of transformation. I think this group has brought about the greatest change since the 1980's. They put melodies and harmony into rap. Even their name shows that rap can be a combination of street life and the harmony of music."

2. Buju Banton
"They have also brought about something new in the last year - the combination of rap and reggae. Both styles have something very real to say about life, and this band combines them to give them both full expression."

3. DAS EFX
"This group really understands the rhythm of rap. This is a very complicated thing to do because



there are many components to the rap beat, and DAS EFX added another one. They sing on the backbeat, between the beats of the obvious rhythm, which creates a new rhythm."

4. Wu-Tang Clan
"In 1993, when the West Coast became the capital of rap, there were battles between the West and East Coast groups. In the album *Enter the Wu-Tang Clan 36 Chambers*, the group was doing some very experimental underground music. They brought back the original meaning of rap. Instead of sitting next to a pool, sipping daiquiris and driving Ferraris, they spoke of real life - the subway and the street."

5. Tupac Shakur
"The others are good, but they're not Orson Welles's *Citizen Kane*, if you know what I mean. Tupac stands out. He wrote lyrics about his life and he didn't shy away from offending the people that he disliked. When he died, I think a big part of true rap went with him. I hope this is only temporary and that rap will continue to convey a truthful philosophy."

- Sonie Lennor

Israel Festival ready to roll

Israeli participation is central to the Israel Festival, especially in this jubilee year, said Israel Festival board chairman Dani Halperin at Tuesday's press conference in Jerusalem, adding that "the Israel Festival is and will remain faithful to its mission as the country's main performing arts festival in Jerusalem, the nation's capital."

A tribute to songwriter Naomi Shemer in Jerusalem and a concert by Holland's Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Tel Aviv, both on May 24, will open this year's Israel Festival Jerusalem.

The 1998 festival from May 24 to June 13 features some 1,000 performers in 60 companies at 13 different venues in Jerusalem and

Tel Aviv, the latter in honor of the jubilee.

"We have sought to emphasize the enormous diversity of contemporary Israeli creativity and to express the talents of a new generation," said Festival artistic director Micha Lewensohn, introducing the program, especially the Israeli contribution.

Augmented Israeli participation in this year's Festival includes *Song of Songs*, a cantata commissioned from 24-year-old Israeli composer Gil Shohat, a world premiere from the Meyumana percussion troupe, a tribute to playwright Nissim Aloni, and a sunrise concert of Mediterranean music on the Mount of Olives.

Other jubilee year specials

include free admission on a space-available basis for soldiers in uniform and, thanks to a special allocation from the Jerusalem Municipality, 10,000 tickets at vastly reduced rates for new immigrants, the elderly, and those from disadvantaged neighborhoods and development towns.

This year's festival budget is NIS 15 million, up NIS 4 m. from last year thanks to special jubilee funding from Mifal Hapayis and the Jubilee Association. However, the Ministry of Education and Culture has failed to deliver an NIS 600,000 special allocation promised publicly by the late Zvulun Hammer. However, added Talgan, only

25% of the total promised funds have so far been delivered, which will create trouble for the festival, as NIS 6 m. in payment to the artists is due within the next two weeks. He appealed to the funding bodies to pay as promised.

Addressing the problem of censorship and the fears of restrictive programming raised since BatSheva Dance walked out on the *Jubilee Bells* event, Festival officials said there had been no attempt whatsoever to meddle with the content of the Israel Festival program.

"What is more," said Halperin firmly, "had such an attempt been made, the municipality, the Festival board, and its professional management would have rebuffed it at the outset."

Anticipated Barefoot Diva, ever live up to all the media hype she's had here over the last few weeks? All reports imply that her crooning ballads easily justify the reputation that has far preceded her. Fresh from Cape Verde, Evora sings in Creole, Portuguese fado, and does the whole thing barefoot. Tonight at Kibbutz Mitze Shalem starting at 9:30 p.m.

In Ramat Gan, the Sifriya theater presents *Jewish Soul*, a play by the prolific Yehoshua Sobol who, as in *Ghetto*, considers World War II themes. This one is about an "anti-feminist, antisemitic philosopher," writing in pre-war Vienna, whose work is turned unwittingly into propaganda. 8:30 p.m. (03) 579-9290.

Anglo, married to a Hebrew, and living in Beersheva? B'yachad, the AACI English speakers' group, holds a wine and cheese tonight for "English speakers and their Israeli spouses," starting at 8 p.m. Phone (02) 623-0688.

And Points Beyond

On Cesaria Evora, the much-

Hot tips

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

Tonight at the Writer's House, an event called Culture Plus considers a topic close to the hearts of us Anglos-in-Israel: "Between Literature and Translation." Hosted by Orna Rav-Hon, with Karen Alkalai-Gut, Rafi Reichert, Tal Nizan-Keren, Riba Rubin, the event starts at 8:30 p.m. 6 Kaplan

St. (03) 695-3256/7. Nahum Hyman's new book is a veritable album, containing 125 songs, poems, stories and photographs displaying 50 years of his work. *Songs Till Today* is a festive rooftop evening honoring him (and the book), with the participation of a particularly talented selection. Performers include pop singer Si Hyman and Flamenco guitarist Baldi Olier. 9 p.m. at the Enav Cultural Center at Gan Ha'ir. Call (03) 521-7763.

Dance buffs take note: Meryl Tankard, Australia's renowned choreographer, has been visiting Israel this week with the Australian Dance Theater. The company presents six performances of Tankard's *Furioso*, by popular and avid demand. At the Center for Performing Arts in Tel Aviv, 8:30 p.m. (03)692-7707.

Tonight the ZOA's Underground Hall features a range of jazz groups: Moav, Microfish and Creme Brulee. 10:30 p.m., 1

Daniel Frish (at Ibn Gbirol). The kings of Israeli ethnic music, Habbreia Hativiti, led by Shlomo Bar, performs tonight at the Inbal Ethnic Center's music series. Bar's genius lies in rich blends of classic Near and Far Eastern music with Western and traditional tunes. Starting at 8:30, Suzanne Dellal.

HaSimta Theater in Jaffa offers the light, lovely comedy *My Ex-External Wife*, starting at 9 p.m. (03) 681-2126, in Old Jaffa. Meanwhile, student acting is another respectable theater option. The Beit Zvi acting school presents Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, tonight at 8:30, (03) 579-9290.

Jerusalem

Witness our youngest and finest Jerusalemites modern dancers tonight. In preparation for its summer tour to North America, dance students at Mehola have prepared

Weekender Food & Drink



Speed-scratch desserts

By HOLLY B. CLEGG

By using a few convenience products for these desserts, you can save time and have the taste of "from-scratch" baking. When you serve a homemade dessert, people always sit up and take notice. "I made it from scratch" usually means that it has uncompromised taste and texture, which can involve a complicated and slow process. But the following dessert recipes have shortcuts that simplify and speed up their preparation, and they taste as if they were homemade all the way.

By using a cake or pudding mix or store-bought cake, you save precious time and, be it a caramel-pineapple upside-down cake or a mocha-chocolate trifle, you can put a spectacular dessert on the table without a hassle.

CRUNCHY OAT-APRICOT BARS

Almost any flavor of fruit preserves can be used in place of apricot.

1 1/2 cups flour
2 cups regular oats
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup margarine
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
cooking spray
1 1/2 cups apricot preserves

Preheat oven to 175°. Lightly spoon flour into dry measuring cups and level with a knife.

Place flour and next 4 ingredients in a food processor and pulse 4 or 5 times or until oat mixture resembles coarse meal.

Press half of oat mixture into the bottom of a 33 x 23cm. baking pan coated with cooking spray. Spread apricot preserves over oat mixture. Sprinkle remaining oat mixture over preserves and gently press. Bake mixture at 175° for 35 minutes or until bubbly and golden brown. Cool bars completely in pan on a wire rack. (Makes 3 dozen.)



(Creators Syndicate)

TRIPLE-CHOCOLATE BUNDT CAKE

550 gr. package devil's food cake mix
1 cup low-fat sour cream
1/2 cup low-fat milk
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 tsp. almond extract
175 gr. package chocolate instant pudding mix
cooking spray
1 cup sifted powdered sugar
1 cup low-fat milk
1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 175°.

Combine first 6 ingredients in a large bowl; beat at low speed of a mixer 30 seconds. Beat at medium speed 2 minutes. Pour batter into a 12-cup Bundt pan coated with cooking spray.

Bake at 175° for 50 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes; remove from pan. Cool completely on a wire rack.

Combine sugar and 4 tsp. milk in a small bowl; drizzle over cake. Let stand 10 minutes. Place chips in a small heavy-

duty zip-top plastic bag; seal. Submerge bag in very hot water until chips melt or microwave at medium-high for 1 minute. Snip a tiny hole in 1 corner of bag; drizzle chocolate over cake. (Serves 18.)

CHEWY CHOCOLATE COOKIES

550 gr. package devil's food cake mix
2 Tbsp. margarine or butter, softened
2 Tbsp. water
2 large egg whites
1 large egg
1/4 cup semisweet chocolate chips
cooking spray

Preheat oven to 175°.

Combine first 5 ingredients in a large bowl; beat at medium speed of a mixer 2 minutes. Stir in chocolate chips.

Drop batter by rounded tablespoons 5cm. apart onto baking sheets coated with cooking spray. Bake at 175° for 10 minutes. Remove from pans; cool on wire racks. Store in an airtight container. (Makes 5 dozen cookies.)

MOCHA-CHOCOLATE TRIFLE

This spectacular dessert serves a crowd and can be made ahead of time.

550 gr. package devil's food cake mix
1 1/2 cups water
2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
2 large egg whites
1 large egg
cooking spray
3 cups cold low-fat milk
120 gr. package chocolate instant pudding mix
1/2 cup Kahlua (coffee-flavored liqueur) or 1/2 cup strong brewed coffee
240 gr. frozen low-fat whipped topping, thawed
1/2 cup chopped chocolate toffee crisp bars (about 4 bars)

Preheat oven to 175°.

Combine first 5 ingredients in a large bowl; beat at medium speed of a mixer until well-blended. Spoon batter into a 33 x 23cm. baking pan coated with cooking spray.

Bake at 175° for 25 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes on a wire rack; remove from pan. Cool completely on a wire rack.

Combine milk and pudding mix in a medium bowl; prepare according to package directions. Tear half of cake into pieces; place in a large bowl or trifle dish. Pour half of Kahlua over cake pieces; top with half of pudding, whipped topping and chocolate bars. Repeat procedure with remaining cake, Kahlua, pudding, whipped topping and chocolate bars. Cover; chill at least 4 hours. (Serves 16.)

LEMON-BLUEBERRY POUND CAKE

cooking spray
1 Tbsp. flour
550 gr. package yellow cake mix
1/2 cup lemon juice
1 tsp. vanilla extract
240 gr. low-fat cream cheese,



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

fresh and dried.

Bay leaves (*alei daphna*): These are great in meat stews, soups, vegetable casseroles and chicken dishes. Add one or two leaves while cooking and remove before serving. Put a leaf in jars of grains and legumes to help prevent infestation.

Caraway (*kimef*): Toasted whole caraway seeds are a great garnish for breads, cabbage salads and cabbage-based dishes. Sprinkle a little over green beans or fish.

Cardamom (*hel tahum* when ground, *tra'ei hel* for whole seeds): Traditionally used in Turkish coffee, cardamom also can be used ground in coffee cakes, garam masala and *hawaj* mixtures. Use one or two gently crushed seeds in rice. Remove before serving, if desired.

Chili (*chili* or *pipel harif*): Chili powder (*avkat chili*) is a fiery addition to anything. Fresh green chili peppers (*pipel yarok harif*) can be chopped and added to salads, cooked vegetables, fish and almost anything.

Chives (*irif*): Use chopped fresh chives as a garnish for salads, fish and cheese dishes. They add color and a gentle onion flavor.

Cinnamon (*kinamon*): Probably the world's most popular spice, ground cinnamon (*avkat kinamon*) is great in cookies and cakes, french toast, hot oatmeal and fruit desserts. A cinnamon stick (*maki kinamon*) gives a nice flavor to hot cider, and also adds a Middle Eastern or Indian twist to rice and meat dishes.

Cloves (*masmeri* *ziporen*

when whole, *ziporen tahum* when ground): Add a pinch of ground cloves to rice, fruit desserts and hot cider.

Coriander (*tra'ei kuzbara* for seeds, *kuzbara yeruka* for fresh): Use coriander seeds whole or ground in soups, stews, chicken dishes, bean dishes and anything you want to have a Middle Eastern taste. Fresh coriander is marvelous as a garnish for salads, meat dishes, fish dishes, cheeses, soups, etc.

Cumin (*kamon*): Use alone or in combination with dried coriander and nutmeg in soups, stews, cooked vegetable salads, bean dishes and any meat or chicken dish.

Tips for using herbs and spices

• Always buy small quantities of ground spices since they lose their flavor and aroma rapidly after grinding.

• Never store spices on a shelf over or near the stove. The heat will cause them to dry out and lose their flavor.

• You can bring out the flavor in whole peppercorns or allspice by roasting them in a medium oven (180°C) for 10 minutes, stirring once or twice; or in a pan, toasting them for 5 minutes over medium-high heat.

• If you love using spices, treat yourself to a spice mill or coffee grinder so you can grind your own. There's nothing like the great aroma of freshly ground spices in your kitchen or your food. To use a coffee grinder for both coffee and spices, run a little sugar through it to get the last aroma out.

Back

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

A couple of months ago, you mentioned that Israelis tend to use chemicals (in the form of soup powder) to flavor their food instead of spices ("A very personal cookbook," February 27). Since people sometimes do this out of ignorance because they do not know what to do with all the different kinds of spices, I thought that it might be a nice idea if you wrote some articles about spices. This would be especially good for olim. (I still haven't found out what *kusbara* is or what it is good for.)

- Lisa Amitai, Kibbutz Merav

favorite spices.

With regard to using soup powder for flavoring, I advise to stop using it immediately. Immigrants probably didn't use it in their native countries and shouldn't yield to manufacturers' appeals to use it now. It is an artificial product with no redeeming features.

Kusbara is the Hebrew word for coriander.

We love lettuce salads, but mine always come out soggy. What's the secret to a good salad? Why do cookbooks always say to dry lettuce and other greens before using them? When you put the dressing on, you are wetting them again anyway.

The first trick to a good green salad is carefully selecting fresh greens and storing them to retain their crispness. Make sure the leaves are bright with no rust-colored spots and that fresh herbs have no yellow leaves. Wash the greens well in cold water. Do not soak them or you'll

lose out on the water-soluble vitamins they contain. Dry them on a kitchen towel and use a second just slightly damp towel to wrap them in (usually the one you dry them on is too wet). Place the greens and towel in a plastic bag and refrigerate till just before serving.

It is a good idea to dry lettuce and other greens before using because the water on the leaves will make the salad soggy and the dressing won't cling as well to wet leaves. First-toss the salad with a small amount of dressing and then add salt or more dressing to taste. Dry, well-tossed greens require less dressing.

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Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.

softened
3 large egg whites
1 large egg
1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries, thawed
1 cup sifted powdered sugar
4 tsp. lemon juice

Preheat oven to 175°. Coat a 12-cup Bundt pan with cooking spray; dust with flour. Combine cake mix and next 5 ingredients (cake mix through egg) in a large bowl and beat at low speed of a mixer 30 seconds. Beat at medium speed 2 minutes; fold in blueberries.

Pour cake batter into prepared pan. Bake at 175° for 50 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool cake in pan 10 minutes; remove from pan. Cool completely on a wire rack.

Combine the sugar and 4 tsp. lemon juice in a small bowl and drizzle glaze over cake. (Serves 16.)

CARAMEL-PINEAPPLE UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE

This recipe makes two cakes, so plan on freezing one cake. It will keep for up to three weeks in the freezer.

600 gr. can pineapple tidbits in juice, undrained
cooking spray
1/4 cup low-fat milk
1 Tbsp. margarine or butter
30 small soft caramel candies
1 cup mashed sweet potatoes or yams
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
3 large egg whites
1 large egg
550 gr. package yellow cake mix

Preheat oven to 175°. Drain pineapple in a colander over a bowl, reserving 1 cup juice. Arrange pineapple tidbits evenly in bottom of 23cm. round cake pans coated with cooking spray.

Combine milk, margarine and caramel in a small microwave-safe bowl; microwave at high 2 1/2 minutes or until caramels are

melted, stirring every minute. Pour caramel mixture evenly over pineapple in pans.

Combine reserved pineapple juice, sweet potatoes and remaining ingredients in a large bowl; beat at low speed of a mixer 30 seconds. Beat at medium speed 2 minutes.

Pour half of batter into prepared pan. Sprinkle with flaked coconut and brown sugar; top with remaining batter. Bake at 175° for 30 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool the cake completely in pan. Spread the coconut-cream cheese frosting over top of cake. (Serves 18.)

COCONUT-CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

180 gr. low-fat cream cheese, softened
1 tsp. vanilla extract

3 cups sifted powdered sugar
1/4 cup flaked sweetened coconut

Beat cream cheese and vanilla at high speed of a mixer until creamy. Gradually add the sugar, beating at low speed until well-blended. Stir in the flaked coconut. (Makes 1 1/2 cups.)

TROPICAL-FRUIT PIZZA

540 gr. package refrigerated sugar cookie dough
cooking spray
1/2 cup sugar
1 1/2 tsp. grated orange rind
1 tsp. coconut extract
240 gr. low-fat cream cheese, softened

1 cup 2.5cm. pieces peeled ripe mango
1 cup sliced banana (about 1 large)
6 1cm. slices fresh pineapple, cut in half
2 kiwifruit, each peeled and cut into 8 slices
1/4 cup apricot preserves
1 Tbsp. triple sec (orange-flavored liqueur) or orange juice
2 Tbsp. flaked sweetened coconut, toasted

Preheat oven to 175°.

Cut cookie dough into 8 slices; firmly press slices into a 30cm. round pizza pan coated with cooking spray. Bake at 175° for 25 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool completely on a wire rack.

Combine sugar, orange rind, extract and cream cheese in a bowl; beat at medium speed of a mixer until blended. Spread cream cheese mixture over cookie crust, leaving a 1cm. margin around edges. Arrange mango, banana, pineapple and kiwifruit on top of cream cheese mixture.

Combine preserves and liqueur in a small microwave-safe bowl and microwave at high 30 seconds or until melted. Drizzle over fruit; sprinkle with toasted coconut. Chill 1 hour. (Serves 12.)

(Creators Syndicate, Inc.)

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המגזין

The Jerusalem Post Thursday, May 21, 1998

13

Uncovering Galilee's ancient Jewish past

Weekender Travel

Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

The synagogue at Arbel is an archaeological gem in the midst of a field of thorns, but that does not detract from its beauty. On the contrary, the fact that you come upon it almost by surprise only makes it more interesting.

The synagogue, one of a number of ancient synagogues in Galilee that I visited recently, is not only outstanding for its remains, but also for its position near the edge of a deep ravine.

From the synagogue, you can see the other cliff and stretching across it is a line of stones, the remains of a wall. It is believed that the wall was built by Josephus, when he commanded the forces of the Jewish Revolt against Rome, and that it was intended to defend a community of Jews who lived in the caves on the side of the cliff.

Of the synagogue itself, only part of the entrance and a few pillars are standing, but the outline of the structure is clear. It is much like other ancient synagogues in Galilee, with two rows of pillars down the center of a rectangular hall and stone benches around the sides.

The entrance, with some pieces lying nearby on the ground, is easy to imagine. It was once a massive stone frame, with relief decorations of fruit, carved out of a single stone.

Apparently the location of this enormous stone block determined the location of the entrance, which was on the eastern side of the building, even though the focus must have been the ark at the southern wall, the wall nearest Jerusalem and the Temple.

The synagogue — said to date from the third century CE — is one of many in Galilee bearing silent witness to the Jewish communities that flourished through the Byzantine period. Later the synagogue was rebuilt with another



A visit to the synagogue at Hamat would be incomplete without going down the hill to the hot springs or gazing upon the well-crafted mosaic of the zodiac.

entrance in the northern wall and a large niche for the ark.

SUCH reconstruction is also evident at the synagogue at Hamat, the small Jewish town near ancient Tiberias.

Here the ancient synagogue is the focal point of a large and well-tended national park, with lawns, flower gardens and paved paths.

When you visit Hamat, make sure that you also go down the hill to the northern corner of the site,

where there is a small hot spring bubbling out of the ground between ancient columns and arches. It was the hot springs, of course, which attracted people to the area in ancient times, just as they continue to draw visitors today.

However, the most impressive element here is a well-made mosaic, whose craftsmen were apparently far more skilled than those who executed the better known mosaic at Beit Alpha, although the themes are similar.

Here, too, there is a zodiac with the seasons at each corner and Helios in the center, driving his chariot.

There is also an elegant ark of the covenant, with its covering curtain artfully tied up in folds, as well as such elements as a lulav and etrog, shofar and ritual shovel.

Here, too, a later Jewish community built a new synagogue on the foundations of the older one, but they were so unimpressed by the mosaic that they built a wall right across it, obliterating some of the panels.

As at Arbel, the later builders created a large apse for the ark in the southern wall, an archaeological element that may have been borrowed from nearby Christian communities.

THE PROBLEM of which way the synagogue faced is also evident at Baram, where there is another national park.

Here almost the entire entrance wall is standing, complete with a central door under a curved stone arch and additional doors on either side, one with a handsome stone lintel carved like the trunk of a date palm.

The difficulty lies in the fact that this entrance wall is the southern



The entire entrance to the Baram synagogue is still standing, complete with a central door under a curved stone arch and additional doors on either side, one with a handsome carving of a palm tree.



Only part of the entrance to the Arbel synagogue and a few pillars are standing, but the outline of the structure is clear.

wall, where the ark would normally stand. So problematic was this orientation that it was only the existence of a small and almost obliterated inscription in Aramaic in one of the wall's stones that convinced the experts that this was indeed a synagogue.

The theory is that either the central door remained closed, with worshippers entering through the

side doors, or there was a portable ark, which was put somewhere along this southern wall, between the doorways.

Baram is the site of the village of Baram, whose Maronite Arab inhabitants were forced to leave in the early years of the State, although they remained in Israel. The residents and their descendants are still demanding the right

to return and they regularly visit their church, just up the hill from the synagogue, for holidays and family occasions.

The church is normally locked, but it is possible to go up to the roof of the adjoining structure, which was once the village school, and enjoy the impressive view of the surrounding mountains in Israel and Lebanon.

On a Limb

An everyday adventure

By AMY KLEIN

Her day has been endlessly long. Like most workdays it was filled with noise and politics and excruciating minutiae of supreme inconsequentiality.

The black cloud lifts slightly as she leaves the building. She takes her keys out and unlocks her vehicle. Donning a helmet of ridiculous proportions, she guns her scooter engine (thank God, it starts today) and shoots out of the parking lot with a rumbling putt-putt. The wind assaults her as she sails down the street, and in the sun-sweet air, the first hint of a smile breaks over her face. She can't help it.

Another day forgotten.

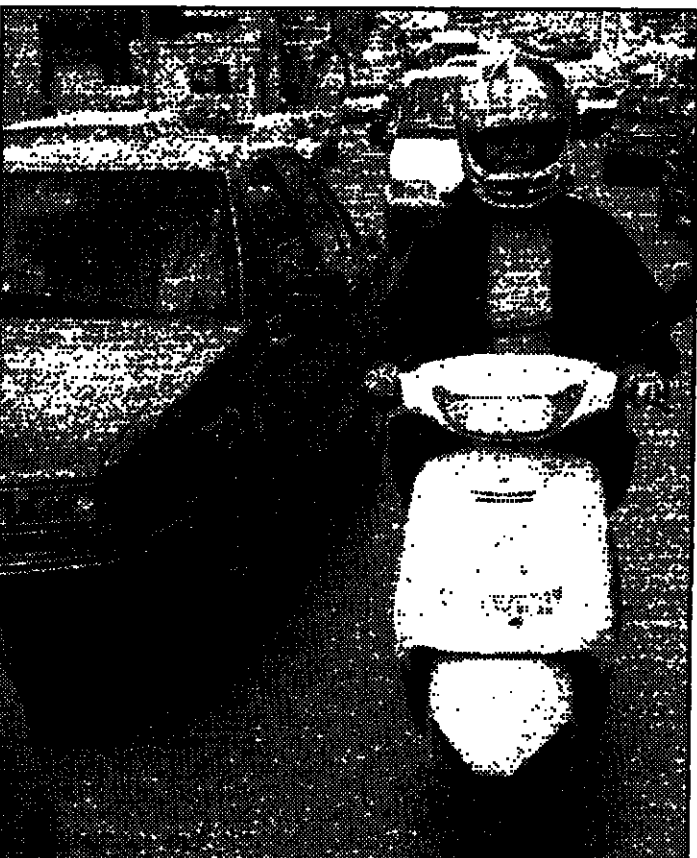
She has to focus on the road now. The dangers come from all sides: A Fiat cutting her off on the left, a half-blind driver jutting out of lane on the right. Whoops! Knocked his mirror. Good thing they bend like straws.

Just ahead there's a wet patch, so she slows down. Last time she thought a wet patch was water and braked on the turn. It turned out to be oil and her moped slid out from under her. She didn't complain. She got off easy — only a skinned knee.

The cars line up at the red light. Nothing is safer than cars standing still — it's the only time they can't harm you. She recalls what she's heard about drivers in Germany. Obsessed with law and order, some car drivers who are stuck in traffic or idling at red lights open their doors suddenly to knock over two-wheeled motorists. Nice.

Still, she zips up the middle lane, until she gets stuck. Why can't cars stay inside the traffic lines? She weaves around a cab. The driver honks at her and gestures obscenely. She whacks his car with her hand (wishing she had a paint gun) and then scoots to the front of the line.

She must be the first one to move when the light turns green — not because she's competitive (although she is) but because scooters have a faster pickup than cars. Aside from being able to park anywhere, that's their main advantage. The light turns green. She



She finishes work. The wind assaults her as she sails down the street, and the first hint of a smile breaks over her face. (Debbie Hill)

zooms ahead and the cars become a speck in her rearview mirror. By the time they catch up, they are all at the next red light. But this time she is not so lucky.

She is stuck behind a bus. A second bus is in the left lane, leaving her no room to shimmy through. She wonders if she'll die from the smoke of the exhaust. She holds her breath instead. When the light turns green she can't rev up, and without her head start at 65 km/h, she doesn't get ahead in time and a white BMW with dice swinging in the window honks. What can she do? He passes her closely on the right, techno music blasting, a passenger waving out the window.

The worst thing, she thinks, is having to deal with these people. Well, it's better than the bus. And

it doesn't matter. At the next light she shoots past the Beemer with a gratuitous honk.

The traffic merges into one lane. The Beemer wants to get personal. It tries to pass her. Her equation is swift: It has four doors, she has none. She lets it pass, familiar with the mind-set: Kill or be roadkill.

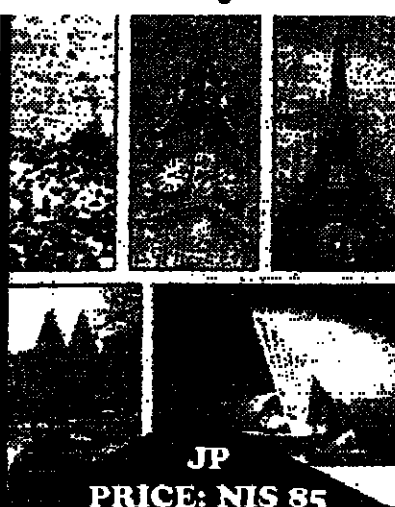
She cruises at 50 down the open stretch. Whoosh! She sees the back of the scooter that nearly knocked her over. Of course. It's a delivery scooter. Now they're dangerous. They give everyone a bad name.

She pulls into her driveway and removes her helmet. Locking up her bike, she checks her watch. Six minutes. Not bad. All in a day's work.

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Run for the shades

Summer always has people sporting sunglasses, but many people wear them all year round. Not only do they protect one's eyes from glare, they are also considered status symbols and image makers.

Think about all the movies you've seen in which the mafiosi wore them, even in winter. Or about sophisticated beauties like Sophia Loren or Gina Lollobrigida, whose huge sunglasses covered a large section of their faces, the rest of which were shaded by cartwheel hats.

And then there are the Hell's Angels in

their anti-glare goggles, and the Alpine skiers in more refined square-shaped goggles. Nerds are identified by small, narrow frames and vamps go for oval-shaped frames with silver or gilded adornments.

And there are the brand-name groupies who shell out a fortune just to prove that they can afford the best. A pair of round Michael Jordan sunglasses, for instance, cost NIS 1,350.

Galil Optics, Max Mara and Anne Klein have brought back the Sophia Loren look, but it's much lighter than it was in its original

incarnation. New technologies have produced lighter plastics that are more comfortable.

Most companies are using plastic rather than metal for frames, but some are combining the two to create new fashion highlights, to complement clothes that are also recreations of past trends.

Shape is not the only consideration when it comes to dark or tinted glasses.

Oakley, one of the well-known international brand names, advises that the most important factor is to be sure that the glasses offer protection from UVA and

UVB rays.

Polycarbonate lenses are preferable to glass, and lightweight frames are less likely to give you a headache than heavy frames.

It is advisable to purchase sunglasses from an optician rather than from a pharmacy or the accessory counter of a department store, because the optician will also check whether the glasses in any way impair your vision. An optician will also give you additional tips about how to protect your sight from the sun's dangerous rays.

The future of photography

On Camera By David Brauner

We are about to gaze into our crystal ball, and ask what the future holds for photography.

Much of the future is the stuff of technological imagination, often kick-started by science-fiction writers and inventors rather than photographers.

Imagine a camera that can conjure up pictures of events that will happen in the future, or make images of things that have never existed. Imagine a device that takes a picture of a child and can convert the information into how he or she will appear as an adult. Fantastic? Perhaps...

But right from its inception in 1839, photography – the ability to produce images of reality then reproduce them at will – captured the imagination of futurists. Nineteenth-century prophets actually envisioned virtually all of the contemporary permutations of imaging (like photocopyers and ultrasound) and photo communication (like television and the Internet).

The only thing that the 19th century lacked was 20th-century technology. So although the sparkling

ideas were there, inventors and engineers were unable to follow through on them.

IN JULY 1839, Deputy Francois Jean Arago presented a bill "for the purchase of the invention of daguerreotype" by the French government.

Among the vast possibilities he foresaw were the speedy copying of "the millions of (Egyptian) hieroglyphics that otherwise would require decades of time and legions of draftsmen." "The hope to make photographic maps of our satellite (the moon)," and the ability to "determine the comparative intensities of two lights."

Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone (1877), described the "photophone," a contraption for "hearing a shadow," which he built in 1878.

Using a light-sensitive selenium cell, he managed to convert light to sound over a distance, but could not reconvert the sound to light at the far end.

In his best-selling 1888 novel *Looking Backward from 2000 to 1887*, Edward Bellamy speculated on an apparatus that carried sound and pictures into people's homes. His fantasy came decades ahead of



Alexander Graham Bell, in an 1877 drawing demonstrating the telephone in Salem, Massachusetts; one year later he invented the 'photophone,' a contraption for 'hearing a shadow.' (Reproduction: David Brauner)

radio and television.

Whatever people can think of is likely to forecast future reality. In a 1929 Buck Rogers comic strip, the hero says, "These self-developing ultra-violet prints are great stuff," as he peels a picture off the screen.

In 1947, some 18 years later, Edwin Land unveiled the Polaroid-Land camera with its self-developing pictures.

Other technological advances that have been proposed include a printing paper that expands as it dries, so people can contact print film the size of a 35-mm. frame

without an enlarger, and a single lens element, atomically layered in such a way so that it could replace the 6-12 heavy glass elements in most camera lenses today.

The erasable, filmless digital camera has also arrived. Digital cameras will never entirely replace film cameras and chemical processing. However, digital photography is likely to eclipse film photography in much the same way as the motor car has overtaken the horse and buggy.

The now ubiquitous 3-D holograph, seen on most credit cards, was the brainchild of the Hungarian Nobel Prize-winning engineer Dennis Gabor. Although he created a diffused, insubstantial 3-D illumination in 1947, the full implementation of his idea had to wait until the invention of the laser in 1960.

The editors of the *Time-Life Library of Photography* chillingly write, "Seeing holography... sets the mind racing ahead to the day when every house might have the modern equivalent of the ancestral hall, a viewing room where family members, relatives and friends materialize in replica whenever the appropriate hologram is illuminated."

CORONA discharge photography,

also known as Kirlian photography, is a curious technique for "photographing" the invisible energy field surrounding any object, animate or inanimate.

Using any kind of film but no camera, scientists, engineers, doctors and artists can trap "pictures" by mapping out the energy corona of objects made with the help of high-voltage electricity. No light is needed to make corona images.

Research work on electromagnetic hands of "faith healers" has shown that these people can turn their healing abilities on and off.

Kirlian imaging has been used to "trap" the auras of energy emitted from the live cells of cancer.

Work currently being done at the Engineering Faculty of Tel Aviv University shows that corona discharge processes serve as a basis for "image engineering."

Research results show that color is dependent on the material where the electrical discharge takes place, and that the "engineering" of the color patterns is feasible.

Your photography questions and comments are welcome. Contact David Brauner, e-mail: dmorri@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line) or fax 02-563-7792 or c/o Photo Archives, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Bridge Seeing diamonds

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
East-West vulnerable

North
♠ 5 4 3
♥ K 7
♦ A K 10 6 5 4 2
♣ 5

West
♠ J 10 8
♥ 6 5 4 3 2
♦ Q 3
♣ 9 4 2

East
♠ 9 7 6
♥ Q J 9 8
♦ J 9
♣ J 10 7 3

South
♠ A K Q 2
♥ A 10
♦ 8 7
♣ A K Q 8 6

| South | West | North | East |
|-------|------|-------|------------|
| 1 C | pass | 1 ♦ | pass |
| 2 ♠ | pass | 3 ♦ | pass |
| 3 ♥ | pass | 4 ♦ | pass |
| 4 NT | pass | 5 ♦ | pass |
| 5 NT | pass | 6 ♥ | (all pass) |

Opening lead: ♠J

Accidents happen at the table. Haven't you ever misheard the bidding? Or thought your partner played a heart instead of a diamond? Surely you've led out of turn.

Today's hand is a story of an accident caused partially by the modernization of our favorite game.

One of bridge's technical improvements of the last 20 years is the use of the bidding box. There are four boxes to a table. The boxes are either attached to the four corners of the table or sit on the table to the right of each player.

Inside each box are bidding cards, organized from one club through seven notrump. There are also pass cards, double cards and redouble cards. In the auction, at each player's turn to call, he pulls out the call he wishes to make from the box and places it in front of him on the table.

Many clubs in Israel now use bidding boxes, and they help in a number of ways. First of all, they are perfect for anyone who is hard of hearing, since the bids are seen and not heard. They help keep the room quiet, and prevent anyone from hearing a bid from another table. Reviews of the bidding are no longer necessary, because if you forgot the bidding, you can just look down and see it.

The only drawback to bidding boxes is if a player accidentally pulls the wrong card from the box and doesn't see it until it's on the table. In such a case, the bid stands. In today's bidding diagram,

another type of accident occurred. The bidding began with South, who held a strong hand, strong enough for a two-bid. But with a two-suited hand, he thought he could describe his hand better by starting with a natural one club.

When his partner bid one diamond, he jump-shifted to two spades. North rebid his diamonds, and South cuebid three hearts, forcing his partner to make a third bid. When North repeated his diamonds a third time, South bid Blackwood, asking for aces. North showed one ace with the five-diamond bid and two kings with his six-heart bid.

Unfortunately, South took off his glasses at this point and, perhaps because he was so used to seeing diamond bids come out of his partner's bidding box, he thought he saw his partner bid six-diamonds. So he passed, and was surprised to learn he was declarer in six hearts! West led the jack of spades and dummy came down. Can declarer make 12 tricks with hearts as trumps?

Amazing, but the answer is yes. Declarer can cash three top spades, two diamonds and three clubs, for the first eight tricks. Next he ruffs a club with dummy's seven of hearts (notice West can't stop him). That's nine tricks.

Next, a diamond is led and East must ruff with the jack or queen of hearts to prevent South from scoring his 10. South overruffs with the ace of hearts (his tenth trick) and leads a club, ruffing with the king of hearts in dummy (his eleventh trick).

Now a diamond is led and East, down to honor-nine doubleton, cannot prevent South from scoring his 10 of hearts. In bridge jargon, this end-position is known as a "coup en passant."

This remarkable hand comes from a book by the late Terence Reese, *Advanced Bridge*, and was pointed out to me by a reader, A. J. Fisher.

Normally, a combined eight-card fit is needed to make a good trump contract. A seven-card fit is sometimes OK. Less than seven means that the opponents have more trumps than you. Surely, a 2-2 trump fit is one of the shortest in history and is absurd.

But accidents happen and if there's a lesson here, it's this: When dummy comes down, it's up to declarer to play the hand to the best of his ability, not to get emotional and dwell on the errors of the bidding.

Readers may contact Matthew Granovetter by E-mail at gran@netvision.net.il

Chess Queen Gambit, revisited

By NIGEL SHORT

If you are looking for a solid, respectable, positionally based defense to 1...d4 it is hard to beat the Tarrasch variation of the Queen's Gambit.

Anatoly Karpov relied extensively upon this trusty line during his golden years as World Champion from 1975-1985, employing it regularly to beat off the challenges of Viktor Korchnoi, among others.

It is slightly less popular now, as fashions tend to follow the champions, and Kasparov has never been more than a part-time Tarrasch player. From a theoretical point of view, though, it remains as robust as ever.

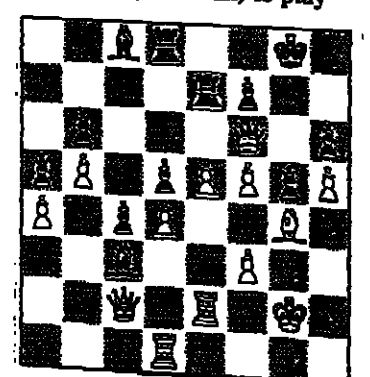
As a long-time Tarrasch practitioner myself, I was delighted to see Vladimir Kramnik recently joining the ranks of devotees. As you will see, he has quickly got the hang of things.

White: Topalov
Black: Kramnik
Linares, 1998

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Ne3 Be7 5. Bg5 b6 6. Bb4 0-0 7. e3 b6 8. Be2 Bb7 9. Rd1. At first sight a paradoxical decision. White could have exchanged three moves earlier, so why lose a tempo in this way? The reason is that he intends to close the diagonal of the b7 bishop, a small strategic victory at the cost of conceding the bishop pair. 9...Bxf6 10. exd5 exd5 11. b4 c6 12. 0-0 a5 asking White's intentions. 13. b5. The most direct. Karpov (with white) has played both 13. a3 and 13. bxa5 against me here, but has been unable to demonstrate any advantage. 13...c5 14. Re1 Re8 15. Rcl Nd7 16. g3 Nf8. Perfectly satisfactory, but if Black wishes to maintain the tension 16...Rc8 is a better choice. 17. Nd4 c4 18. Bf1. From the rapidity of Vassily Topalov's moves and from discussions with his manager/analyst Silvio Danilov, it was clear that the Bulgarian liked his position here. Long term though, Black holds two major assets in his protected passed pawn on the 5th rank and the his two bishops. 18...Qd6? 19. Qc7! is a better square for the queen, as will

be seen 19. Bg2 Rad8 20. b4 Ne6. 20. g6! is more precise, maintaining the option of deploying the knight to f6 via h7. 21. Ne3 g6 22. Nd2 Ba8. A poor square for the bishop but 22...Re7 ran into 23. Bxd5! Bxd5 24. Nc4 winning. 23. h5 Despite Black's inaccuracies White still has next to nothing. He now embarks upon a faulty plan which is unrealistic in its objective to plant a knight unmolested upon the f5 square. 23...g5 24. Nd1? Be7 25. g4? Qd7 26. Ng3 Ng7 27. a4 Bb4. Obtaining a clear superiority. The only question is how to pry open the position. 28. Bb3 Bb7 29. Qc2 Bd6! 30. Nf5 Nxf5 31. exf5 Bb4! Having coaxed out a weakness the bishop returns to its outpost. 31...Bc7! was a good alternative. 32. Kg2 Qd6 33. f3 Re7 34. Re2 Rde8 35. Rce1 Qf6 36. Bg4 Bb6 worrying White with the threat of 37...Bc7 and Qd6. 37. Qd1! Bb4. If 37...Bc7 38. e4. 38. Qc2 Rd8 39. Rd1 Bc8 40. e4? A time-trouble mistake. He had to try 40. Na2 but doubtless he was becoming weary of defending 40...Bxc3 41. e5. If 41. Qxc3 dxc4 42. fxc4 Bb7! 43. Bf3 g4! and the center collapses.

Black: (Kramnik) to play



White: (Topalov)

41...Rxe5!! Overlooked by the Bulgarian. 42. dxe5 If 42. Rxe5 Bxd4. 42...Bxe5 43. Rd1 Be7 44. Rg8+ Kg7 45. Rxd8 Bxd8 46. Rd1 Bb7 47. R4. Precipitating the end but there was nothing to be done anyway. 47...d4-48. Bf3 d3! White resigned. After 49. Qxc4 Qb2+ 50. Kg3 Bx3 51. Kxf3 Qe2+ crushes as does 49. Qf2 Qx51 50. Bxb7 Qg4+.

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Thursday,
May 21 1998

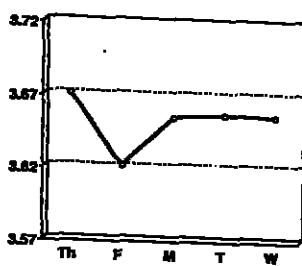
BUSINESS & FINANCE

15

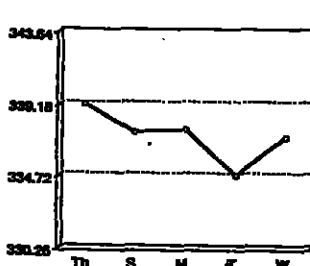
MARKETS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

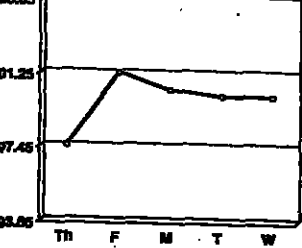


MAOF INDEX



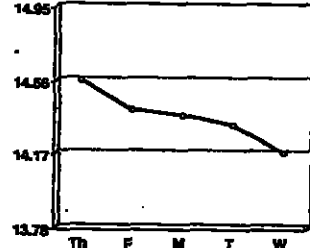
GOLD

\$ per ounce

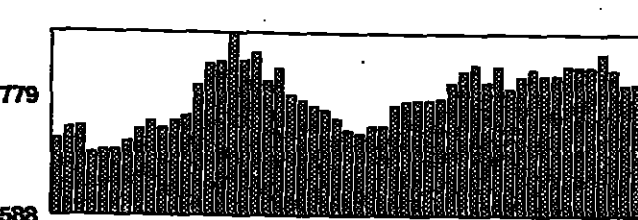


OIL

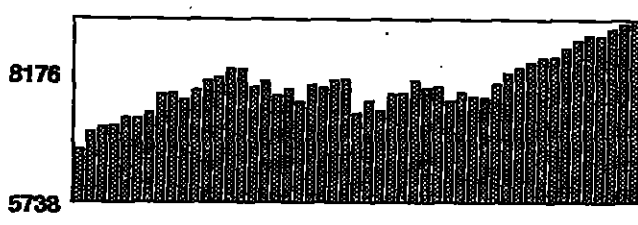
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



BITS & BYTES

Koor increases stake in ECI Telecom

Koor Industries yesterday reported that it had increased its holdings in ECI Telecommunications to 14.33 percent by acquiring stocks on Nasdaq earlier this month for \$31.50 to \$32.50 per share, a price which is slightly higher than the closing price of ECI yesterday of 31 3/8.

Koor, which holds an option to buy another 5% of the telecom company from Clal Israel, bolstered its control over ECI last month by buying 5% from Clal and an 8.6% stake from Claridge Israel.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Volksbank pays \$20m. to Israeli entrepreneurs

The Austrian bank Volksbank agreed to provide DM35 million (\$19.7m.) to Israeli entrepreneurs Moti Zisser and Eli Popouchado for the financing of a commercial center in Csepel on the outskirts of Budapest. The shopping mall, which was opened last December, is one of eight commercial centers Popouchado and Zisser plan to build in Hungary.

Dan Gerstenfeld

French business delegation here on visit

A 50-member delegation of French businessmen, headed by Lionel Stoleru, president of the Israel-France Chamber of Commerce, is visiting here this week to examine investment opportunities and joint ventures with local industry.

The group is to meet with the Manufacturers Association, visit technological incubators, and tour the ECI and GEO facilities.

Nina Gilbert

Sharansky holds trade talks with Mexico

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, who was in Geneva this week for the World Trade Organization conference, held talks there on a free trade agreement with his Mexican counterpart, Hermilio Blanco.

The two agreed that an Israeli delegation will visit Mexico in July in an effort to hasten the conclusion of an agreement. The Mexicans are to prepare a timetable for the reduction of customs.

Nina Gilbert

Bank of NY withdraws Mellon Bank bid

Bank of New York Co. withdrew its unsolicited \$22.3 billion takeover offer for Mellon Bank Corp., as expected, ending a month-long public battle in which each side claimed to have the support of Mellon shareholders.

Bloomberg

UN: PA economy grew 1% in '97

By DAVID HARRIS

The Palestinian economy grew one percent in real terms during 1997, according to a UN report published yesterday.

The document from the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories (UNSCO) reported that despite the more optimistic predictions, the gross domestic product grew 1%, while the gross national product increased 3%. With the population growing at an annual 4.5%, per capita income shrank during the course of last year.

The Report on Economic and Social

Conditions in the West bank and Gaza Strip points out that there was a 4.4% increase in the number of Palestinians working in Israel and a 2% rise in trade flows. Construction activity grew 10%, with a 15% rise in company registrations.

At the same time, borrowing from commercial banks jumped 59% to \$545.8 million, with UNWRA and other organizations offering credit to the value of \$35.5m., a 94% rise on the 1996 figure. Contributions from the donor nations fell some 21%, reaching \$432.2m.

Closures and similar Israel measures cut the potential number of workdays by 20.5%,

compared to 29% in 1996. Internal West Bank closures increased from 27 days to 40, according to the report. Income lost as a result of the closures is estimated at \$228m.

Unemployment was reduced from 24% to 21%. Some 33,000 new jobs were created last year, the vast majority in commerce, construction and the public sector.

The real terms average daily wage dropped 7.5% to \$15.93, although those working in Israel saw their wages eroded by 4.4%.

Living standards also declined, with a 9.4% decrease in monthly expenditures for the average family. Inflation stood at 6.1% at

the year's end, with consumer price index rising 4.8% in the West Bank, 6.9% in Gaza and by 7% in East Jerusalem.

The flows of goods and workers between the territories and Israel increased during the first quarter this year, in comparison to those registered in 1997. The report notes that there were no comprehensive closures in this period.

"Such trends are indicative of a good economic start for the year," the report concludes, adding that much will also depend on private investment, employment trends and the need for increased spending on infrastructure projects.



In euro we trust

A worker takes a handful of newly minted 5 cent French euro coins in the 'Monnaie de Paris' factory. France started to mint euro currency a week ago, which is due to go into circulation in 2002.

(Reuters)

Gov't approves high-tech training scheme

By DAVID HARRIS

The government yesterday approved the implementation of a pilot program for training employees in high-tech industries. In the first stage, some 300-400 people will study for a year with tuition being given at a variety of levels.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai said the program, which hopes to train 6,000 people over the next three years, "is a great step forward in developing Israel's industries of the future."

The initial part of the scheme will be funded from within the ministry's existing budget. Some "ineffective courses" are being abolished in order to pay for the new classes, according

ministry spokesman Nachum Ido. However, the government will have to consider future funding if the pilot proves a success. In order to train 6,000 people, the ministry's professional training department says it will need an NIS 113 million budget so that it can function until the year 2000.

The logic behind the program is the ever growing need for new blood in Israeli technological industries. Government economists say the present shortfall in the work force runs to 3,500 and could double by the turn of the century.

The program will be divided into three. The level of education offered in each category will be qualitatively distinct:

- 2,000 people will be trained in universities in the fields of computer engineering, software engineering, communications, and microelectronics.

- A further 2,000 will be trained in colleges. They will study systems management, information systems operation and engineering, and programming.

- The remainder will attend leading high schools, where they will study programming and electronics.

The lengths of study will be restricted to one year. Entrance will be only via examination and the ministry assumes that one in 10 of those taking the exam will be accepted. There are no age limitations, according to Ido.

IBM agrees to buy first Israeli company

By DAN GERSTENFELD

International Business Machines Corp. has agreed to purchase Rehovot-based software producer Ubique for an undisclosed price, marking the first deal in which the world's largest computer maker has bought an Israeli company.

Ubique, which was formed four years ago, was sold in 1995 to America Online (AOL) for \$14.5 million.

Since then, the company has changed its line of products, which were originally aimed at households, to software products for the corporate market.

Following the change, AOL reduced its holdings in the company and sold part of it to other investors.

Ubique president Avner Shafir said the company was recently approached by IBM Lotus

Development subsidiary, and the deal was signed on Tuesday.

People familiar with the deal said the computer giant is interested in exploring ways to cooperate with other Israeli high-tech companies through Ubique, which develops software for E-mail and multimedia communications.

The deal will allow IBM to offer e-mail capabilities with its Lotus software. Ubique's products alerts users about other people who use the software at the same time, allowing them to communicate with each other immediately.

"Lotus isn't buying just the technology; it is also buying the vision and experience of the company workers," Shafir said. "What we are bringing with us is very strong and is going to change the work perception of E-mail users."

He added that the company, which currently employs 35 workers, will expend its activities. In addition to acquiring Ubique, IBM purchased on Tuesday another software company, DataBeam, which will also be included in the real-time applications offered to Lotus users.

Export Institute: Boosting aid for exports can bring quick growth

By NINA GILBERT

A \$150 million investment in export marketing infrastructure can create another \$1 billion in exports, and add 1 percent annual growth and 12,000 jobs, the Israel Export Institute said yesterday.

The institute's plan for encouraging economic growth, which it is to submit to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other economic policy-makers, calls for more aid for marketing goods and services of Israeli companies, especially to foreign govern-

ments, and greater assistance to foreign trade risk insurance and start-up companies.

"The plan is the quickest solution for restoring growth, as it is based on existing infrastructure, and its influence on the inflation rate will be minimal," institute chairman Amir Makov said at a news conference in Tel Aviv yesterday.

The fast-changing nature of the global economy "requires a redoubling and constant improvement in marketing efforts," he said.

The institute also called for Israel to expand its involvement in regional banks and international organizations.

Makov said the government's plan to boost growth "won't have a short-term impact, as it is based only on physical infrastructure."

Tadiran CEO Israel Zamir called for increased support for the Foreign Trade Risk Insurance Administration, by expanding the number of countries covered for political risk and giving commercial risk coverage in the medium and long term.

Investment Center approves more projects

By NINA GILBERT

The number of projects approved for capital investment aid by the Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Center totaled 126 in the first third of the year, a 32 percent increase from the same period last year, according to figures released by the center yesterday.

However, the value of the projects, \$240 million, dropped 16%.

A center official said the aid, about NIS 1.8 billion a year, is going more toward smaller projects.

The proportion of start-up projects continued to rise in the beginning of this year. Most foreign investment in the period was focused on the high-tech sector.

In the tourism sector, the slow-

down continued in requests, approvals and implementation of projects.

Of the projects approved, 58% are in the tax break benefit track, in which the business operates tax free for two years and enjoys discounts for another five years.

This is the only option available in the center of the country.

In national priority zones, grants of up to 24% of fixed assets are offered, much lower than several years ago, when 38% was available.

TARGET (מטרה)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 19.5.98
Purchase Price: 135.52
Redemption Price: 133.53

PRIME (פרימ)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 19.5.98
Purchase Price: 120.17
Redemption Price: 118.63

HEAR O ISRAEL

Let the priests, who minister before the Lord, weep between the temple porch and the altar. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?' Then the Lord will be jealous for his land and take pity on his people. Joel 2:17-18

"Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the Lord your God." Leviticus 20:7

Come now O Israel, let us become one in heart and humble ourselves before the Lord our God and pray for the peace of Jerusalem!!!

Meeting at the Dung Gate, May 27 at 7 p.m.

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TASE rises, led by Makhteshim-Agan

Tel Aviv

Stocks rose for the first time yesterday in five sessions led by Makhteshim-Agan Industries, which said it will raise capital from shareholders to finance acquisitions and marketing activities.

Makhteshim-Agan, which makes agrochemical products, gained 2.9 percent to NIS 13.25, helping the Maof Index of 25 largest companies gain 0.75% to 337.07.

The chemical manufacturer, which is 52% owned by Koor Industries, said it wants to raise \$100 million, or 8.7% of the company's eventual market value, by selling new shares to shareholders. Makhteshim-Agan Chemical Manufacturers merged to improve their ability to raise capital, find a foreign investor, and make marketing and research activities more efficient.

"This has been expected ever since they announced the restructuring. They need the strong growth to finance their strong growth rate," said Martin Geifman, an analyst at Zannex Securities. "Now that they've done the restructuring, they can get financing on better terms."

A Makhteshim-Agan spokesman said the company already has received a commitment from Koor to purchase the new shares. The newly merged company began trading under one issue on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange on May 11.

Koor lost 0.9% to NIS 458. Israeli Chemicals gained 1.6% to NIS 4.6 and subsidiary Dead Sea

Bromine gained 1.2% to NIS 35. Dead Sea Bromine said Tuesday first-quarter net income rose 13.4% to NIS 28 million as it sold products with higher profit margins and cut costs.

Asia

Japan's benchmark stock index rose to its highest in three weeks, paced by companies, such as Pioneer Electronic Corp., that plan to buy back shares.

"Only the companies with cash can afford to do this [buy back shares], so it's a sign of corporate health," said Stephen Bronte of Stephens Bronte Partners, a Japanese equity hedge fund in Tiburon, California. "Stocks are cheap now. It's a good time for them to buy back their stock."

About 100 companies — including Pioneer, Toyota Motor Corp. and Casio Computer Co. — announced in the last two days plans to buy back as many as a quarter of their outstanding shares. By reducing the number of outstanding shares, the companies increase the earnings per share of the remaining stock.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index rose 101.30 points, or 0.65 percent, to 15,652.95. That's the highest it's been since April 30. The broader Topix index of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange gained 5.76 points, or 0.47%, to 1,225.62.

Some companies, which forecast lower profits, still managed to rise on news that they plan to buy back shares.

"By announcing buybacks, even

STOCKS

Maof 337.07 ▲ 0.75%
Dow Jones 9171 ▲ 1.3%
FTSE 5907.4 ▲ 0.5%
Nikkei 15652.5 ▲ 0.65%

the weaker companies were able to avoid a sell-off," said Sachio Ishikawa, general manager at Chuo Securities Co. equity division.

"The fundamentals are not that great, but who am I to sneer at a market going up?" said Alex Muromtsev, international portfolio manager at Nicholas Applegate Capital Management, which handles \$300 million in Japanese equities.

(Bloomberg)

Europe

LONDON (Reuters) — The UK's FTSE 100 index closed 0.5 percent higher yesterday, as investors breathed a sigh of relief over the Federal Reserve's decision to leave US interest rates unchanged and as political tension in Indonesia eased. The FTSE 100 closed at 5,907.4, up 29.6 points.

Shares in Frankfurt rose to records high, surpassing the key psychological barrier of 5,500

points amid optimism Asian bourses were settling. The DAX-30 index closed at 5,510.98, up 122.08 points, or 2.27%. In later screen-based trade the Xetra DAX index ended at 5,514.51, up 73.51 points, or 1.35%.

In Paris shares put in another day's stout performance, surging in the closing minutes to end up 1.69% at a new record high. The gain followed a 0.90% rise in the previous session. The CAC-40 index closed at 4,047.92, up 67.08 points.

In Zurich shares closed marginally higher in quiet trade and a shortened session ahead of a one-day holiday. Dealers said prices were buoyed after the US Federal Open Market Committee decided on Tuesday to leave interest rates unchanged. The Swiss market index closed at 7,495.8, up 12.6 points, or 0.17%.

The Milan bourse ended slightly softer after sparse volume failed to hold opening gains. The market moved lower after Italian Justice Minister Giovanni Maria Flick offered his resignation, which Prime Minister Romano Prodi rejected. The All Share Mibtel index closed at 23,780, down 50 points, or 0.21%.

In Amsterdam shares piled on further gains, coming within shouting distance of their recent all-time peak. The AEX index closed at 1,194.20, up 16.80 points, or 1.43%.

New York

Blue-chip stocks, cheered by trade data that eased worries over the threat of an interest rate hike, ended sharply higher yesterday.

But the Nasdaq market tumbled as investors took profits in high-flying computer maker Dell Computer Corp., after it reported quarterly results that were strong but failed to generate investor enthusiasm.

The Dow finished up 116.83 points, or 1.3 percent, at 9,171.48, according to early, unofficial results. The Nasdaq composite ended down unofficially 14.11 points, or 0.8%, at 1,831.76. The S&P 500 gained 9.54 points, or 0.9%, to 1,119.06.

Advancing issues only narrowly edged decliners on the Big Board, evidence that the rally was narrowly focused on big blue chips.

The widening US trade gap in March gave investors some of the evidence they have sought to support expectations that turmoil in Asia would temper US economic growth. The expectations held that the economy will slow enough to keep the Federal Reserve from raising interest rates.

The government reported the US trade gap widened to \$13.03 billion from a revised \$12.18b. in February.

Dell's failure to beat so-called "whisper" earnings estimates in its record first quarter hit the stock. Dell was down 2-27/32 at 91-3/4.

Shares in Analogix Devices Inc. tumbled after the integrated circuit maker said its third-quarter earnings would be lower than Wall Street expected. Analogix ended off 6 at 27-3/4.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller stocks shed 2.32 points to 468.54.

(Reuters)

Mark up as report shows German strength

The dollar fell for a second day against the mark after reports showed Germany's trade surplus rose to a six-month high and the US trade deficit swelled to a six-year high.

The US report signals that slowing economies in Asia are dragging on US exports, while the figures from Germany show the economy there may be gathering steam. Together, they suggest the US-German interest-rate differential, which favors the dollar, may begin to narrow.

"With the trade deficits running the way they are, the European currencies will do better than the dollar," said Steven Smith, who manages \$500 million in bonds at Brandywine Asset Management in Wilmington, Delaware. "If Europe does recover, rates will go up there

and if the US starts to weaken, then [US] rates will come down."

The dollar fell to 1.7722 marks from 1.7830 marks Tuesday in New York. Earlier, it fell to 1.7702 marks, its worst one-day drop in five weeks. The dollar could fall as low as 1.70 marks in the next three months, said Smith.

The dollar slipped to 136.00 yen from 136.26 after the US reported the trade gap with Japan rose to a five-month high in March, leaving more dollars in the hands of Japanese exporters to sell for yen when bringing profits home.

The US trade deficit with the rest of the world swelled to \$13.025 billion in March, surpassing the six-year high of \$12.108b. In February, the Commerce Department said, Economists polled by Bloomberg News fore-

cast the deficit would narrow to \$11.7b.

Germany's trade surplus, meanwhile, rose to 13 billion marks in March, as exports surged to a

record. That's up from 12 billion marks in February and the highest since September. Exports jumped 19% to 83.9 billion marks.

"Europe is positioned very, very well," said John Hazelton, chief currency trader at Manufacturers & Traders Trust.

"We've enjoyed such a wonderful run in our economy, that all the good news may be out for the States, while all the bad news may be out for Germany."

Further news of slower growth in the US may keep the Federal Reserve, which Tuesday left its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 5.50%, from raising interest rates in the near future.

Conversely, news of German growth may prompt the Bundesbank to raise its benchmark securities repurchase rate,

now at 3.30%, to keep inflation in check.

Not only does a widening trade surplus signal economic growth, it means more foreign currency is in the hands of German exporters to sell back into marks.

"The German trade figures came in higher than expected and that spurred some good mark buying across the board," said Rob Newman, a currency trader at the Bank of Nova Scotia in London.

News of a rising trade gap with Japan is bearish for the dollar because it increases the likelihood of trade tension between the US and Japan. US officials regularly urge Japan to do more to lower its trade surplus with the rest of the world.

(Bloomberg)

LAST CHANGE

Tel Aviv 337.07 ▲ 0.75%
Dow Jones 9171 ▲ 1.3%
FTSE 5907.4 ▲ 0.5%
Nikkei 15652.5 ▲ 0.65%

US Dollar (1) 1.7722 ▲ 0.0001
Euro (100) 1.3660 ▲ 0.0001
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FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE: 20-MAY-98)

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

NYSE Composite 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Industrial 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Transportation 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Utilities 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Financial 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Technology 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Health Care 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Consumer Goods 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Energy 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Materials 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Real Estate 9171.48 ▲ 116.83
NYSE Other 9171.48 ▲ 116.83

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

FTSE 100 5907.4 ▲ 0.5%
DAX-30 5510.98 ▲ 2.27%
CAC-40 4047.92 ▲ 1.69%
Nikkei 225 15652.95 ▲ 0.65%
Topix 1225.62 ▲ 0.47%
All Share Mibtel 23780 ▲ 0.21%
AEX 1194.20 ▲ 1.43%
Russell 2000 468.54 ▲ 0.9%

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

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FRANKFURT

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SPORTS

in brief

'Australian umpire stands down from Test'

HOBART (Reuters) - Australian umpire Steve Randell will not officiate in next month's first Test between England and South Africa after being charged with sexually assaulting young girls in the 1980s, according to a newspaper report.

The Daily Telegraph said yesterday that Randell, one of two Australian umpires on the international panel, had stood down from all international duties until the matter was resolved by the courts.

Randell, a veteran of 36 Tests and 88 limited-overs, has also been suspended by the Tasmania Education Department where he works as a teacher.

The 42-year-old Randell appeared in a Hobart court on Tuesday on 11 charges relating to alleged incidents dating back to 1982.

Batistuta gives Argentina 1-0 win over Chile

MENDOZA, Argentina (AP) - A second half goal by striker Gabriel Batistuta gave the Argentina national soccer team a 1-0 win over Chile in a pre-World Cup tuneup match.

Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano missed a penalty in the 90th which would have tied the score.

Batistuta scored in the 47th minute of Tuesday's match, played before 45,000 spectators at Mendoza, a provincial capital at the foot of the Andes.

Iran sack coach after 7-1 loss

TEHERAN (Reuters) - Iran have sacked Croatian coach Tomislav Ivic, just three weeks before the World Cup kicks off, after the team lost 7-1 to Italian club side Roma.

"Following the crushing defeat of the Iranian national soccer team in the friendly match against AS Roma on Tuesday night, the Croat head coach of the team Tomislav Ivic was dismissed and was replaced by Jalal Talebi," the official news agency IRNA said yesterday.

Ivic, 64, has had a bumpy ride as head of Iran's national team. Jeered off the field after his first match in charge - a 2-0 loss to Hungary - Ivic has failed to satisfy Iran's soccer-mad fans and its politically-charged soccer federation.

Premier League attendance continues to rise

LONDON (AP) - Attendance at English Premier League soccer games increased by 2.65 percent this season to an average of 28,434 as the game's popularity continued to soar, according to figures released yesterday.

Total attendance topped the 11 million mark for the first time since the Premier League was reduced from 22 to 20 clubs.

The biggest increase was seen at Derby, where attendance rose 62.7% following a move to its new Pride Park ground. Manchester United attracted more than one million spectators to a ground for the first time ever (up 0.61 percent to 1,048,185).

McGwire hits 3 homers vs. Phillies

Cardinals hitter has 20 HRs after 43 games; brawl mars Yankees-Orioles game

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Mark McGwire's second three-homer game of the season powered the St. Louis Cardinals to 10-8 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday night.

McGwire, who leads the majors with 20 homers and 52 RBIs, hit three two-run shots, the last one a 451-footer into the upper deck at Veterans Stadium that snapped an 8-8 tie in the eighth. The six RBIs tied a career high for McGwire, who has hit five homers in his last four games.

In New York, Brian Bohannon, making just his third start of the season, allowed three hits and one run in six innings as New York swept Cincinnati.

Bobby Jones allowed four hits in eight innings and Butch Huskey hit a three-run homer for the Mets in the first game.

Bohannon (1-1), making the start as the Mets played their second of seven doubleheaders this season after a run of rainouts, also had an RBI single in the second inning of the second game, when the Mets jumped to a 3-0 lead.

John Franco allowed an unearned run in the ninth inning, but picked up his ninth save in 11 opportunities.

Cubs 6, Dodgers 3

In Chicago, Mark Grace drove in three runs and Tyler Houston homered to lead Chicago to its seventh win in eight games.

Grace hit a sacrifice fly in the first and a two-run double in the fifth, and Houston added a two-run homer in the fourth.

Steve Trachsel (5-1) went seven innings, allowing three runs on eight hits. Rod Beck struck out the side in

the ninth for his 14th save in 15 opportunities.

Brewers 9, Giants 6

In Milwaukee, Jeremy Burnitz's three-run homer in the ninth inning lifted Milwaukee over San Francisco.

With the score tied 6-6, Fernando Vina opened the ninth with a double off Jim Poole (0-1). Vina went to third on Jeff Cirillo's sacrifice bunt and, after an intentional walk, Burnitz hit an O-1 pitch over the right-field fence, his ninth homer of the year and his first since April 28.

Burnitz went 3-for-4 with a double, a single and four RBIs for the Brewers, who blew a 6-0 lead.

Leading 6-4 in the top of the ninth, Doug Jones (3-2) allowed the Giants to tie the score, but was the winner despite his fourth blown save in 15 chances.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Yankees 9, Orioles 5

In New York, in a game that featured one of the wildest brawls in recent baseball history, filled with big punches and spilling into the dugout in 10 minutes of fury, the New York Yankees beat the Baltimore Orioles 9-5 Tuesday night.

Bernie Williams hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning, putting the Yankees ahead 7-5, and then the trouble began when Armando Benitez drilled Tim Lincecum in the upper back with his next pitch.

Plate umpire Drew Coble immediately ejected Benitez, while Darryl Strawberry and Chad Curtis led the Yankees' charge from the first-base dugout. Benitez dropped his glove, motioning for Strawberry to fight, and then both teams went crazy.

H-Rs: Torres, McLane (3), Rodriguez (8), Shyne (8).

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Anastasi 001 000 000 1-4 8 2

Rogers 000 000 000 0-0 0 0

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Inside

Baseball
roundup

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori LewisHap. Tamra
player gets
life ban for
attacking ref

By ORI LEWIS

The Israel Football Association's disciplinary court yesterday meted out some of the swiftest, harshest punishment it has ever handed down when it banned a player for life and his club for two seasons.

The player in question, Mohammed Mahmoud Abu-Hija, of Hapoel Tamra, was given a life ban from soccer after he was found to have attacked referee Asher Cohen during a Fifth Division match on Saturday.

The trouble flared in the dying minutes of the match, when Tamra's opponents, Maccabi Daliat al-Carmel, the home team, scored to make it 2-1, thus ending Tamra's chances of promotion.

When he came to restart the match, Cohen was manhandled and then punched by Abu-Hija. The attack led to a free-for-all with Tamra supporters and players joining in the fracas as Cohen and his assistant literally ran for their lives.

They took refuge under a table in one of the dressing rooms but the protection was not enough and Cohen had to be hospitalized with a broken nose.

Abu-Hija was arrested by police on Sunday and was later remanded for eight days at Haifa Magistrates Court.

When questioned, Abu-Hija denied being the culprit, saying he was on the substitutes' bench when the referee was attacked.



Juventus's Alessandro Del Piero (center) is tackled by Real Madrid's Fernando Hierro (left) and Christian Panucci during first-half action in the European Cup final in Amsterdam last night.

Real win European Cup

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Real Madrid won a record seventh European Champions Cup last night, beating Juventus 1-0 with Yugoslav striker Predrag Mijatovic ending the 32-year drought.

In a physical battle which often belied the dazzling array of talent on the field, Real turned their horrid season and a well-balanced final around in the 71st minute with a combination of luck and class.

Roberto Carlos put in one of his trademark drives from the left but the ball was deflected into the path of Mijatovic, who deftly controlled it, danced around a desperate Angelo Peruzzi and slotted it home from a tight angle.

With Filippo Inzaghi missing a flurry of second-half chances, it was all Real needed.

Juventus had already clinched their

second straight league title ten days ago. Real Madrid finished a humiliating fourth in their league and desperately needed to win the cup to salvage some pride and a place in next year's Champions League.

Real Madrid had already won six titles, all between 1956 and 1966. Several veterans from the 1966 team, including Alfredo Di Stefano and Ferenc Puskas, were in the stands of the Arena stadium watching a new piece of Real history being made.

It long looked an unlikely feat. Juventus were ready to make an early kill in the final and immediately heaped pressure on Real "keeper Bodo Illgner. A fifth-minute shot from Didier Deschamps was an early warning but failed to wake up the Spaniards.

Two minutes later Roberto Carlos almost defeated a cross from Illgner.

Di Livio into his own goal. In the 14th minute Zidane's shot went just wide. Real had to wait until the 19th minute for their first real threat on goal, when Peruzzi punched a scaring 20 meter freekick from Fernando Hierro over.

It was the punch Real needed. Mijatovic headed a corner barely wide and in the 26th minute Real had their best first-half scoring chance.

The game increasingly turned into a mad scramble in the second half. Exactly such a scramble in the goalmouth almost gave Juventus the lead in the 53rd minute when Torricelli's desperate lunge at a ball just went over from close range.

On the hour-mark Juventus striker Filippo Inzaghi suddenly awoke, killing a cross from Davids on his chest, volleying from 12 meters out and forcing a good save from Illgner.

A minute later, Inzaghi was again through when a freekick dropped out of the wall at his feet and from 8 meters he should have scored instead of letting Illgner getting his hands on it.

After Real scored, it again came down to Inzaghi to miss a golden opportunity, failing to convert a cross from Del Piero.

Davids stormed through the Real defense in the 75th minute and when he had swatted away most of the defense and only faced Illgner, he meekly pushed the ball in his hands. Juventus played in their third Champions Cup final in row, winning it in 1996 and losing to Borussia Dortmund in last year's final.

The game was watched by a sellout crowd of 67,500 at the Agniet stadium, and an estimated 300 million television viewers around the globe.

Jordan leads
Bulls to 2-0
over Pacers

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan put on another dazzling display Tuesday night, scoring 41 points and making several huge plays down the stretch as Chicago defeated Indiana 104-98 for a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

Fallaway jumpers. Drives through traffic. Offensive rebounds. Defensive rebounds. Timely assists.

Jordan did all of it in the fourth quarter when the Bulls wouldn't let the Pacers catch up. And he did it on a night when commissioner David Stern presented him with his fifth Most Valuable Player trophy.

It was Jordan's 35th career playoff game scoring at least 40 points, his highest point total of this post-season and his biggest outburst since scoring 55 against Washington in the first round of last year's playoffs.

He shot 13-for-22 from the field and 15-for-18 from the line with five assists, four of Chicago's 15 steals and four rebounds.

But more than any stat line could show, Jordan took the life out of the Pacers every time they tried to make a move.

No plays were bigger than the two Jordan made in the final two minutes. After Indiana scored four points in less than 10 seconds to pull to 98-95, Jordan drove to his right, slipped and fell, got back up — maintaining his dribble all the while — and then sliced through three defenders for a runner that bounced in.

Rik Smits missed a shot for Indiana, and Jordan tipped the rebound to Luc Longley. He got the ball back and was isolated one-on-one against Reggie Miller and drove to his right.

Like he has done thousands of times, Jordan stopped at the baseline, turned, squared his body and hit a 14-foot fallaway.

The Bulls used a lot of the same strategies that worked so well in Game 1, from using Scottie Pippen to defend Mark Jackson to using

Ron Harper to frustrate Miller. The Pacers' frustration started to show at the end, and their fouls got a little harder and their tempers began to boil over.

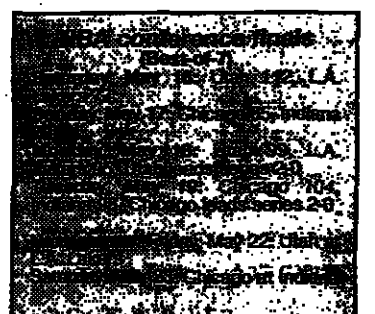
Indiana had another bad night protecting the ball, turning it over 20 times, and again got a sub-par effort from Miller, who scored 19 points but shot just 4-for-13 from the field.

The Bulls, meanwhile, survived a weak effort from Dennis Rodman, who had only two points and six rebounds in 24 minutes.

Pippen had 21 points, six rebounds, five steals, five assists and three blocked shots, and Toni Kukoc scored 16 points.

Chicago committed only six turnovers and managed to hold onto the lead throughout the fourth quarter after going ahead in the third.

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|----|----|--------|
| Indiana | 28 | 24 | 22 | 24-88 |
| Chicago | 28 | 19 | 33 | 28-104 |
| Indiana (98) | Mullin 6-10 5-6 18, | | | |
| LDavis 3-4 3-8 9, | Smits 7-11 3-4 17, | | | |
| Jackson 4-8 0-0 8, | Miller 4-13 10-11 19, | | | |
| ADavis 5-9 4-5 14, | McKey 3-7 2-2 9, | | | |
| 1-2 0-0 2, | Best 1-4 0-0 2, | | | |
| Pope 0-0 0-0 0. | | | | |
| Totals 34-69 27-32 98. | | | | |
| Chicago (104) | Pippen 6-18 7-10 21, | | | |
| Kukoc 5-12 5-7 18, | Longley 3-7 0-0 6, | | | |
| Harper 3-8 1-2 7, | Jordan 13-22 15-18 41, | | | |
| Rodman 1-6 0-2, | Warrington 3-4 0-0 6, | | | |
| Brown 0-1 0-0 3, | Burrill 0-1 2-2 2, | | | |
| Buechler 0-0 0-0 0, | Simpkins 0-0 0-0 0, | | | |
| Kerr 1-3 0-0 3, | Totals 35-79 30-39 104. | | | |
| 3-Point goals-Indiana 3-12 (McKey 1-2, | | | | |
| Miller 1-3, Mullin 1-5, | Warrington 0-1, Best 0-1, | | | |
| Chicago 4-16 (Pippen 2-6, Kerr 1-2, | | | | |
| Rodman 0-1, Harper 0-1, Jordan 0-1, | | | | |
| Fouled out-New Orleans 50 (DDavis 9, | | | | |
| Chicago 43 (Harper 9). | | | | |
| Assists-Indiana 22 (Jackson 8), Chicago | | | | |
| 20 (Pippen, Jordan 5). | | | | |
| Total fouls-Indiana 30, Chicago 27. | | | | |
| Technical fouls-Indiana 0, Chicago 1 (Harper). | | | | |
| Defense-A-23,844 (24,119). | | | | |

All Blacks, Fijians
dominate rugby sevens

By JOEL GORDIN

New Zealand and Fiji were the outstanding teams in the Jerusalem International Sevens Department Sevens Tournament which got under way at Teddy Stadium in the capital yesterday.

Both ended the first of the two-day event unbeaten following three games they played in the round-robin pool competition.

Samoa and Australia were the runners up in the pools and the four southern hemisphere teams will contest the cup final play-offs tonight. The other four teams — Spain, Wales, Hungary and Israel — will play in the plate consolation knock-out competition today.

A crowd of about 1,500 attended the evening which marked the most ambitious rugby venture ever undertaken in Israel. Many of the games were one-sided, but tonight's matches will be much more evenly balanced and a superb evening of rugby is to be expected.

The proceedings were opened on a festive note, with the blowing of a shofar. Immediately afterwards Samoa took the field against Hungary and thrashed them 82-0, nothing up what was to be the biggest score of the evening.

The damp squib of the tournament was Australia, the team that won the prestigious Paris Sevens Tournament at the weekend.

The Wallabies won their first two

games against Spain (29-12) and Israel (38-0), but even against these relatively weak opponents they played sluggishly and with a marked lack of enthusiasm on attack.

In their third game, the Aussies were soundly beaten 27-5 by the All Blacks. The much-vaunted David Campese, who in his day was one of the most electrifying players in the world, did not take the field in the first two games.

He came on during the second half in the match against the All Blacks and touched the ball once — dropping an easy pass.

On the other hand, the All Blacks' international and captain, Eric Rush lived up to his reputation. He led some masterful charges and scored some excellent tries. He was well backed up by Fleming and Seymour.

The Fijians enthralled the crowd, giving a great display of the attacking running game that took them to the top of the sevens world championship last year. Their ace scorer, Marika Vanibaka, took part in some superb movements. Samoa were also a pleasure to watch and were unlucky to lose to Fiji.

Amongst the lower placed teams, Wales showed a plucky defense against both Fiji and Samoa but were simply outmanned by their faster opponents.

Spain also tried hard and gave Australia a scare by keeping them

to a 12-5 lead at half-time.

Israel and Hungary were out of their depth. The local team, reinforced by a number of Fijians serving with the UN had its best moments against Australia. They held the visitors to a 10-0 difference at half-time before being outmanned by Dominic Byrne who scored a hat-trick of tries. Local heroes Tazhah Tsafadia, Guy Dotan and Sagi Silverman showed pluck and talent and did not let the side down.

On last night's form, the winners should be decided between New Zealand and Fiji — unless Australia and Campese make a determined effort to pull their socks up.

Today's action kicks off at 17:00 with three youth games. After that, the semi-finals of the pool will be played: Wales v Israel, and Spain v Hungary.

At 18:40 the cup contest will start with Fiji playing Australia and New Zealand facing Samoa.

Games will then be held for places 7-8, 5-6 and 3-4. The cup final will be held at 21:30 and will be followed by a prize-giving ceremony.

Last night's results:
Pool A: Samoa 82, Hungary 0; Fiji 37, Wales 25; Israel 38, Spain 12; Hungary 7, Wales 5; Fiji 28, Samoa 14.
Pool B: Australia 29, Spain 12; New Zealand 28, Israel 0; Australia 38, Israel 0; New Zealand 33, Spain 5; Israel 7, New Zealand 27, Australia 5.
Pool C standings: Fiji 9 points, Samoa 7, Wales 5, Hungary 3.
Pool D standings: New Zealand 9, Australia 7, Spain 5, Israel 3.

Britain to act
against World
Cup hooligans

LONDON (Reuters) — Britain took steps yesterday to allow its courts to prosecute any soccer fans convicted of violence in France during the World Cup, which begins next month.

Home Secretary Jack Straw asked parliament to approve rules which would allow British courts to prevent fans convicted of violence in France from travelling to future soccer matches abroad.

"We have been able to reach a bilateral agreement with the French authorities in advance of the World Cup," Straw told parliament.

"This will allow us to take action in our courts in addition to prosecution and conviction in France," French magistrates will be available at each of the World Cup venues to deal swiftly with any violence.

"We, in turn, will ask the courts here to issue a restriction order when these people return to this country. This will prevent their attendance at future matches abroad."

The government is anxious that a lack of tickets for World Cup matches could lead to violence by English and Scottish fans.

Golf ball hits
car, rebounds
for hole-in-one

HAYDENVILLE, Mass. (AP) — It's safe to say Todd Obuchowski couldn't repeat his hole-in-one if he tried.

On the 106-meter par 3, fourth hole Saturday at Beaver Brook Golf Course, Obuchowski blasted his tee shot over the green and toward the adjacent highway.

That's where Nancy Bachand and her Toyota entered the picture, cruising along at 30 kph. The ball ricocheted off the passenger side of the car, bounced back to the green and rolled in the cup for a hole-in-one.

"I didn't know for sure until all these guys started shouting," said Obuchowski, a 34-year-old sheet metal worker.

At least eight other players at three different spots on the course said they witnessed the shot.

"It was about the most bizarre thing I've seen somebody do on a golf course in 30 years of playing," Thomas Jenkins said.

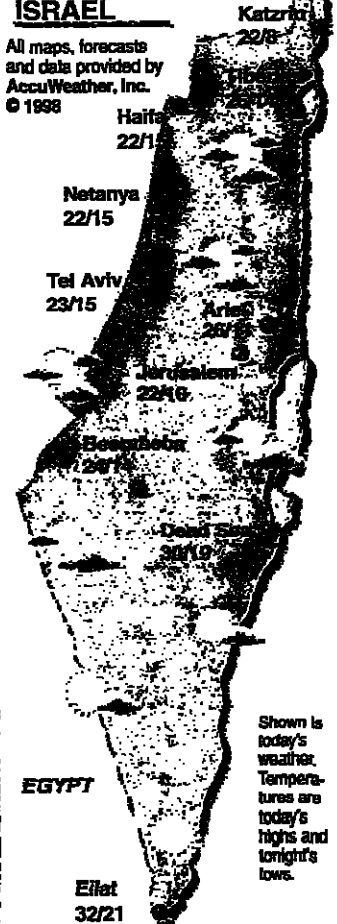
Bachand said the shot caused over \$150 damage to her car.

AIR CANADA

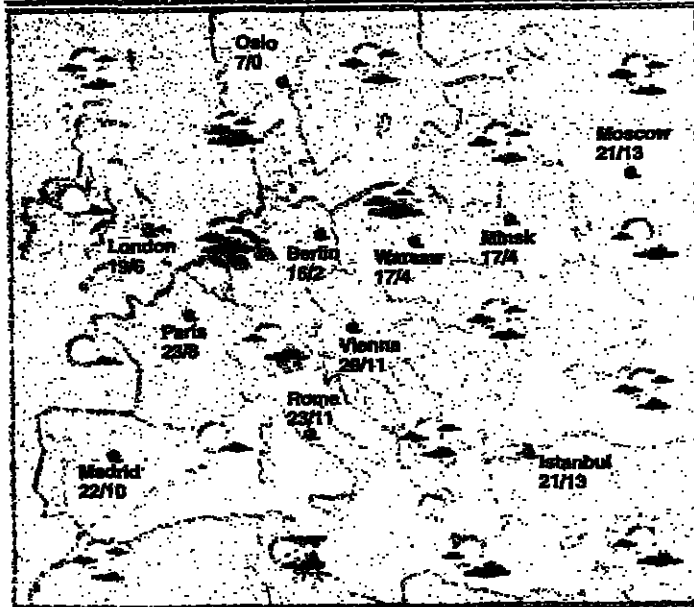
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| City | Today | | Friday | | Saturday | | Sunday | | Monday | |
|-----------|-------|----------|--------|----------|----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| | High | Low | High | Low | High | Low | High | Low | High | Low |
| Adel | 29/18 | 11/55 | 28/22 | 22/22 | 29/18 | 23/12 | 29/18 | 23/12 | 30/18 | 16/55 |
| Beersheva | 29/18 | 21/7 | 29/22 | 14/78 | 29/18 | 22/30 | 28/12 | 14/57/78 | 30/18 | 16/10/18 |
| Dead Sea | 30/18 | 19/6/50 | 30/18 | 19/6/50 | 30/18 | 17/6/20 | 35/55 | 21/7/20 | 37/18 | 23/7/30 |
| Haifa | 29/18 | 21/10 | 32/8 | 21/10 | 30/8 | 19/6/20 | 35/55 | 21/7/20 | 34/55 | 22/7/30 |
| Jerusalem | 22/1 | 15/50/20 | 24/75 | 12/50/20 | 24/75 | 15/50/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 |
| Katrin | 22/1 | 15/50/20 | 24/75 | 12/50/20 | 24/75 | 15/50/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 |
| Netanya | 22/1 | 15/50/20 | 24/75 | 12/50/20 | 24/75 | 15/50/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 |
| Or Shalom | 22/1 | 15/50/20 | 24/75 | 12/50/20 | 24/75 | 15/50/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 | 29/18 | 17/6/20 |